



STREET FIGHTER™ ORIGINS  
AKUMA



STREET FIGHTER™ ORIGINS

# AKUMA

STORY  
CHRIS SARRACINI

ARTWORK  
JOE NG

INKS  
ROB ARMSTRONG  
KEVIN RAGANIT

COLORS  
ESPEN GRUNDETJERN

LETTERS  
MARSHALL DILLON



# CHAPTER ONE: SEED IN THE WIND

Rural Japan.  
Some time ago.

"COME AKUMA.  
IT IS TIME TO OPEN  
YOUR EYES. GOUKEN  
AND I ARE WAITING."

"MY EYES ARE TIRED  
FATHER, PLEASE LET  
ME SLEEP. I WAS  
DREAMING OF  
FLYING AND DON'T  
WANT TO WAKE UP."

"THERE IS NO TIME LEFT  
TO DREAM, NO TIME LEFT  
FOR REST. THE SUN IS  
CALLING AND THE EARTH  
WAITS FOR NO MAN."

"THE FIELDS WILL GROW, WHETHER  
TENDED TO OR NOT. THE SNOW WILL  
FALL, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER  
ONE HAS SHELTER. THE WIND WILL  
BLOW EVEN IF WE MEAN TO SAIL  
THE OTHER WAY..."





...THESE ARE THE THINGS A FARMER KNOWS THAT OTHERS FORGET.

WE MUST REMAIN **HUMBLE** IN THE ARMS OF THE EARTH. MUST REMEMBER THAT IT IS **HER** THAT RULES **US**.



THE MAN WHO BELIEVES THAT CONTROL IS HIS, THAT HIS CHOICES DECIDE HIS DIRECTION...

...HE IS BLINDED BY **ARROGANCE** FOR THE EARTH OFFERS US LITTLE CHOICE.



I'M PRETTY CERTAIN **HE** CHOSE TO WAKE US, NOT THE "EARTH".


QUIET YOURSELF **AKUMA**.




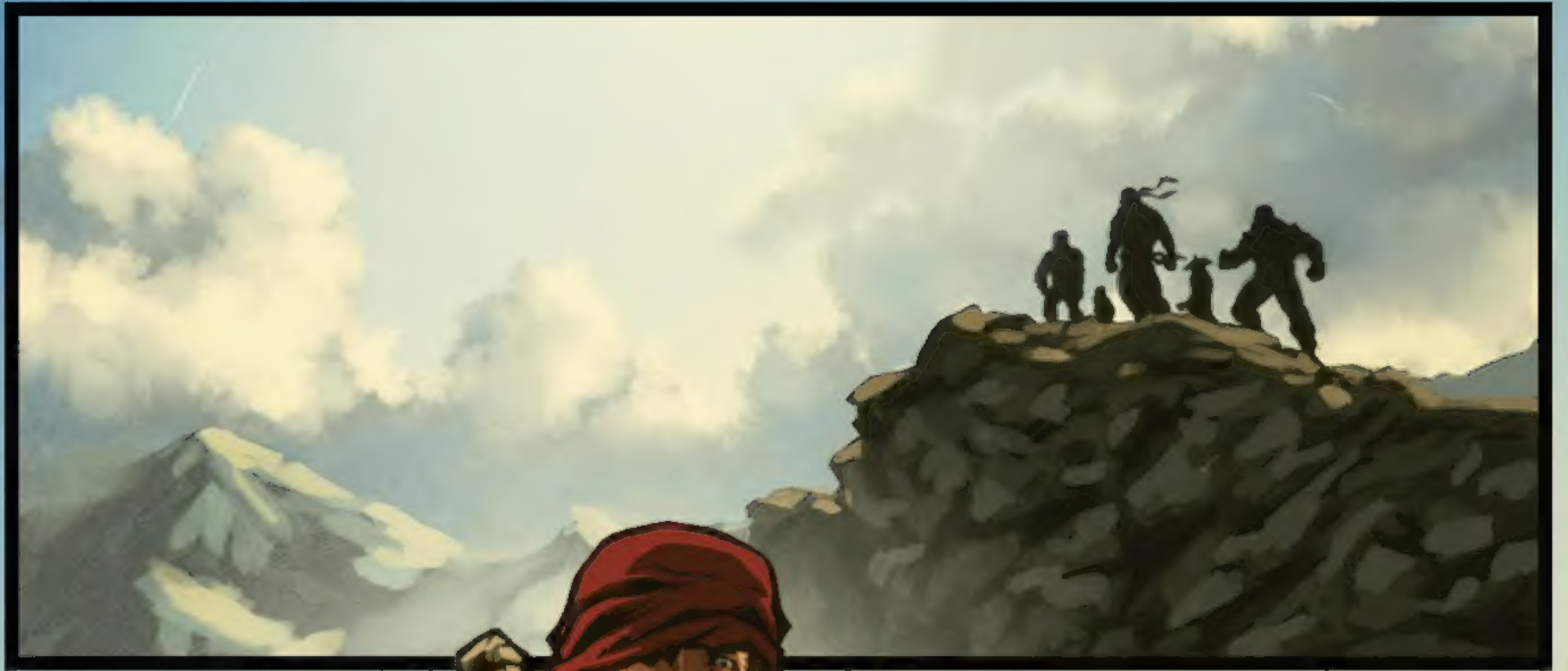
WE ARE BUT SEEDS IN THE WIND. WE FALL WHERE WE MAY.

THIS IS FRIGHTENING TO SOME. COMFORTING TO OTHERS...






"...TODAY THE EARTH  
DEMANDS THAT WE  
REAP WHAT HAS  
BEEN SOWN..."



"...TOMORROW IT  
WILL BRING WHAT  
IT WILL BRING."



LAY LOW  
IN THE HILLSIDE.  
BETTER TO BE  
PATIENT. TONIGHT  
WE APPROACH.





COME MY BIG STRONG BOYS. FATHER MUST BE PROUD OF YOU BOTH. YOU HAVE WORKED LONG AND HARD.



GO INSIDE. DINNER IS WAITING. FATHER WILL NOT MIND.

WITH THE WORK YOU HAVE DONE HE WOULD NOT WANT YOU TO WAIT FOR H--



GOUKEN TAKE AKUMA. GO TO THE STABLE. DO NOT LET ANYONE SEE YOU.

YOSHINORI WHAT IS IT?



DO AS I SAY BOYS!

WE HAVEN'T MUCH TIME!









THEY MIGHT LIKE TO HEAR ABOUT **GYŪKI**, FIRST GENERATION DISCIPLE OF **GOUTETSU**, MASTER SENSEI OF THE **ANSATSUKEN** SCHOOL OF KARATE.

THEY MIGHT LIKE TO HEAR ABOUT THE FRIENDS YOU ONCE HAD. THE MEN WHO WERE LIKE BROTHERS TO YOU, TRAINED WITH YOU... MY FATHER ONE OF THEM.



I KNOW NOTHING OF THE PEOPLE YOU SPEAK OF. I'M NOT SURE WHAT IT IS YOU WANT BUT YOU HAVE MISTAKEN ME FOR SOMEONE ELSE.

PLEASE FRIEND... LET MY FAMILY BE.



WRONG CHOICE OF WORDS **GYŪKI**. I KNOW WHAT HAPPENS TO THOSE WHO CALL YOU **FRIEND**. I KNOW ALL ABOUT IT. IT'S WHY YOU DROWN YOURSELF IN THESE RICE FIELDS, ISN'T IT? TO KEEP EVERYONE AWAY?

HIDING YOUR BOYS FROM THE WORLD... I WONDER, HAVE YOU TAUGHT THEM TO FIGHT YET? LIKE **GOUTETSU** DID FOR YOU, HAVE YOU SHOWN THEM THE STRENGTH, THE DISCIPLINE OF **ANSATSUKEN**?

OR ARE YOU WORRIED THEY WILL LOSE THEIR WAY? BECOME SEDUCED BY THE **DARK SIDE** OF THE ART... ITS ARSENAL OF KILL TECHNIQUES...

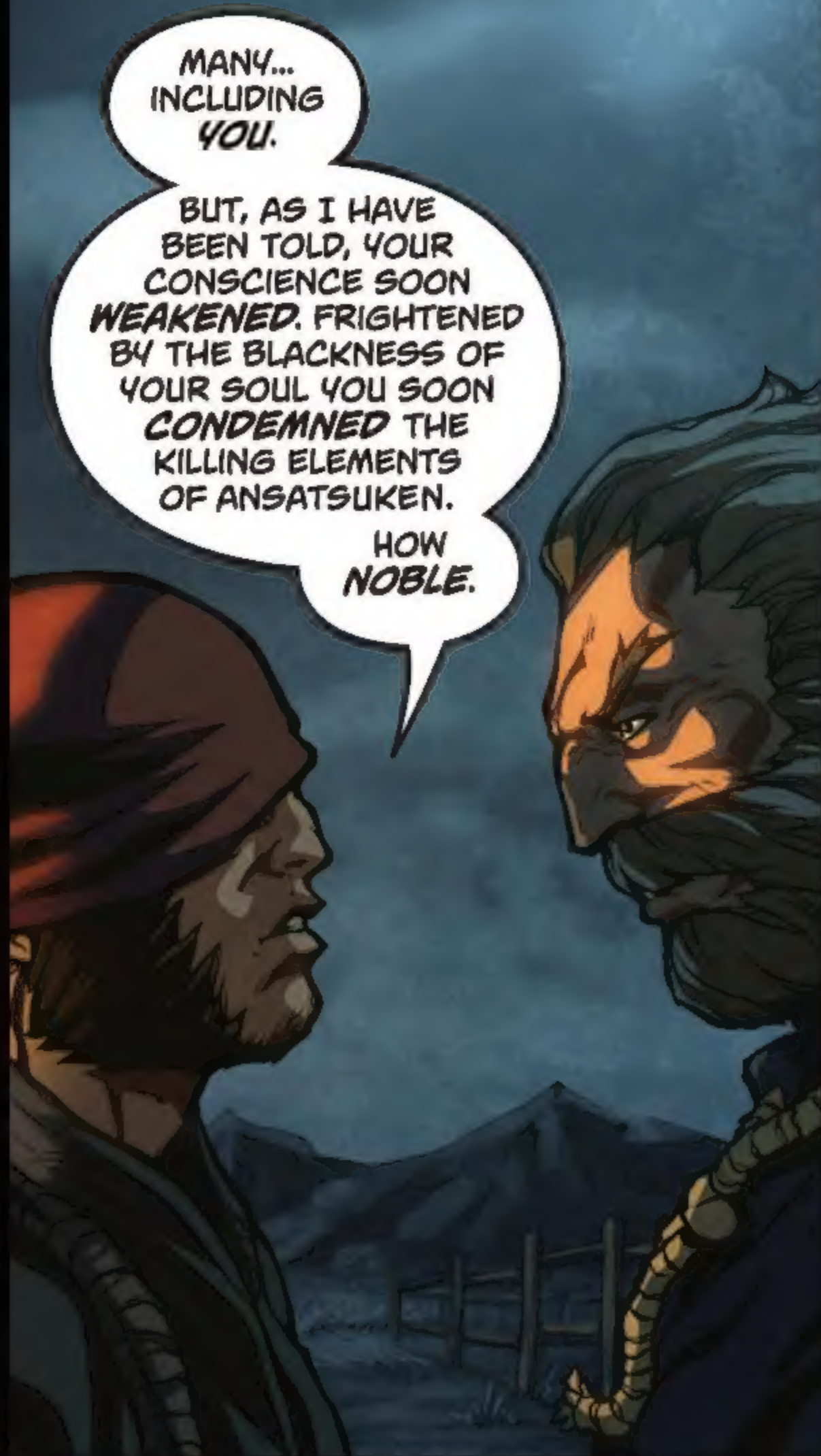
ARE YOU WORRIED THEY MIGHT ONE DAY BEGIN SECRETLY TRAINING TO HARNESS THE **DARK HADO** AS YOU DID?

IT'S OKAY BOYS. I KNOW HOW YOU MUST FEEL RIGHT NOW. I TOO WAS FRIGHTENED WHEN I LEARNED OF MY FATHER'S TERRIBLE PAST.

MY FATHER, YOUR FATHER... **MANY** OF **GOUTETSU**'S FIGHTERS BECAME OBSESSED WITH THE **DARK HADO**. WHEN **GOUTETSU** DISCOVERED THIS HE DISMISSED THEM. **MANY** BEGAN INSTEAD TO WORK AS **ASSASSINS**.







MANY...  
INCLUDING  
YOU.

BUT, AS I HAVE  
BEEN TOLD, YOUR  
CONSCIENCE SOON  
**WEAKENED**. FRIGHTENED  
BY THE BLACKNESS OF  
YOUR SOUL YOU SOON  
**CONDEMNED** THE  
KILLING ELEMENTS  
OF ANSATSUKEN.  
HOW  
**NOBLE**.



YOUR DECISION TO  
FIRST KILL ALL OF YOUR  
FELLOW ASSASSINS,  
HOWEVER, DEFIES  
CATEGORIZATION.

I HAVE SPENT A LIFETIME  
LOOKING TO THE SKY FOR  
ANSWERS AND FOUND NONE.  
NOW, IT SEEMS, THE WIND  
HAS INSTEAD BLOWN  
ME HERE.



I...I...

...I DON'T  
KNOW WHAT YOU  
ARE TALKING  
ABOUT...



**ENOUGH!**

YOUR LIES  
WILL NOT SAVE  
YOU! ADMIT WHO  
YOU ARE AND  
FIGHT!

ADMIT YOUR  
DISHONOR OR  
WATCH WHAT  
HAPPENS TO  
HER!



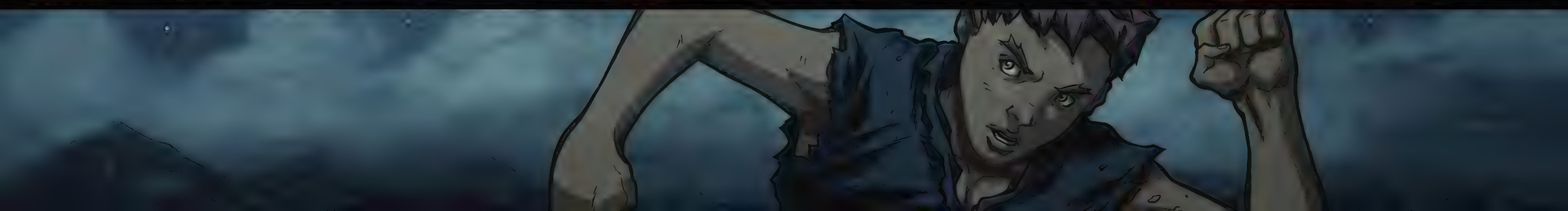
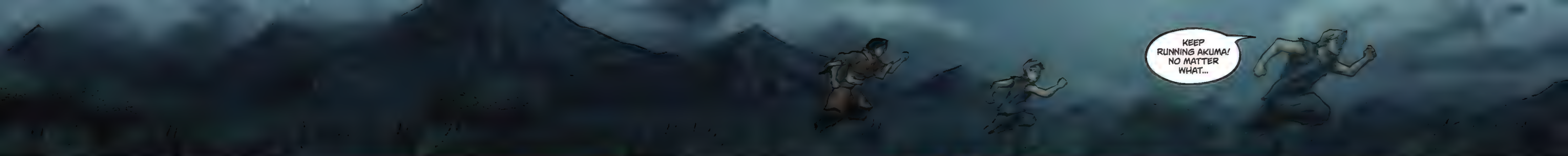
















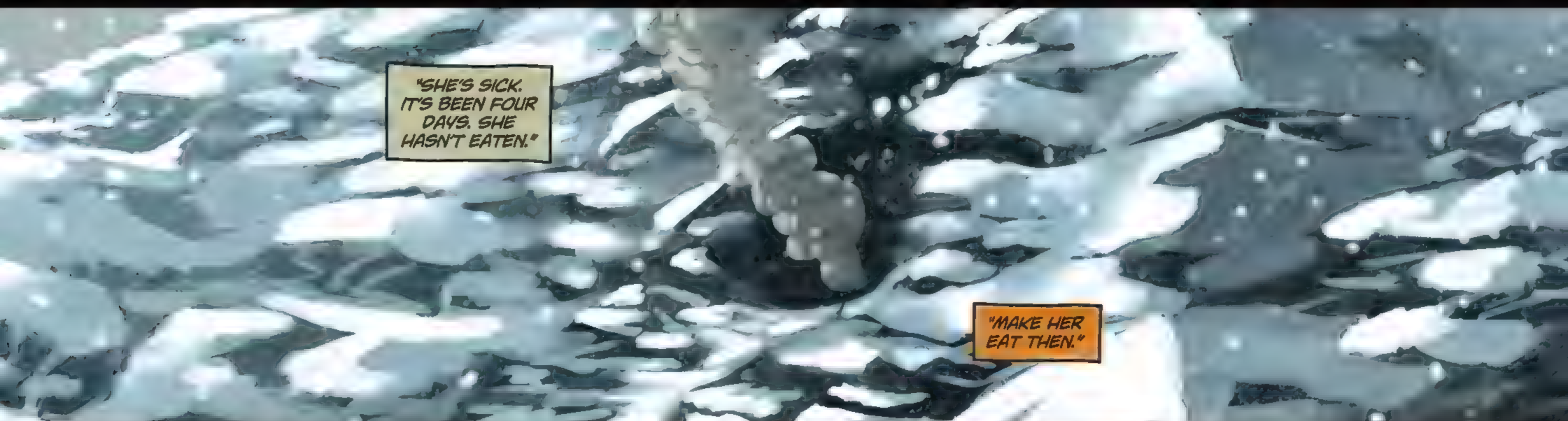


# CHAPTER TWO: BLOODLINES



"AKUMA, WE NEED  
TO TALK."

"SO TALK."



"SHE'S SICK.  
IT'S BEEN FOUR  
DAYS. SHE  
HASN'T EATEN."

"MAKE HER  
EAT THEN."





IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE. AT FIRST I THOUGHT SHE WAS TOO WEAK TO EAT. BUT NOW...

WHAP

WHAP

WHAP

WHAP



...I'VE BEGUN TO THINK SHE'S REFUSING TO.

WHAP

WHAP

WHAP

WHAP



THEN SHE'S NOT SICK AT ALL. JUST REFUSING TO FIGHT. DOES THIS SURPRISE YOU?

WHAP

WHAP

WHAP

WHAP



WATCH YOUR TONGUE BOY. YOUR ANGER ACCOMPLISHES NOTHING RIGHT NOW.

WHAP

WHAP

WHAP

WHAP





HMF.  
SO  
HOW SHOULD  
I ACT THEN  
GOUKEN?

WHAP



SMILE WHILE  
WE RUN FROM  
CAVE TO CAVE?  
STEALING FOOD  
LIKE PEASANTS?  
THAT'S YOUR  
PLAN?

WHAP



NOW IS NOT  
THE TIME FOR RISKY  
EXPOSURE. *THINK* AKUMA.  
HE KILLED OUR FATHER  
BECAUSE *HIS* FATHER WAS  
KILLED. HE WILL WANT TO KILL  
US TOO. HE FEARS THE SAME  
FATE WILL HAPPEN  
TO HIM.



FATHER  
GREW SLOW AND  
WEAK PICKING RICE,  
PRETENDING TO BE  
SOME *FARMER*.  
*FORGETTING*  
WHO HE WAS.

*THAT'S WHY*  
HE'S DEAD NOW. HE  
GAVE UP HIS STRENGTH  
FOR *HER*... NOW SHE'S  
TOO *WEAK* TO EVEN  
WANT TO STAY  
ALIVE.



SMACK





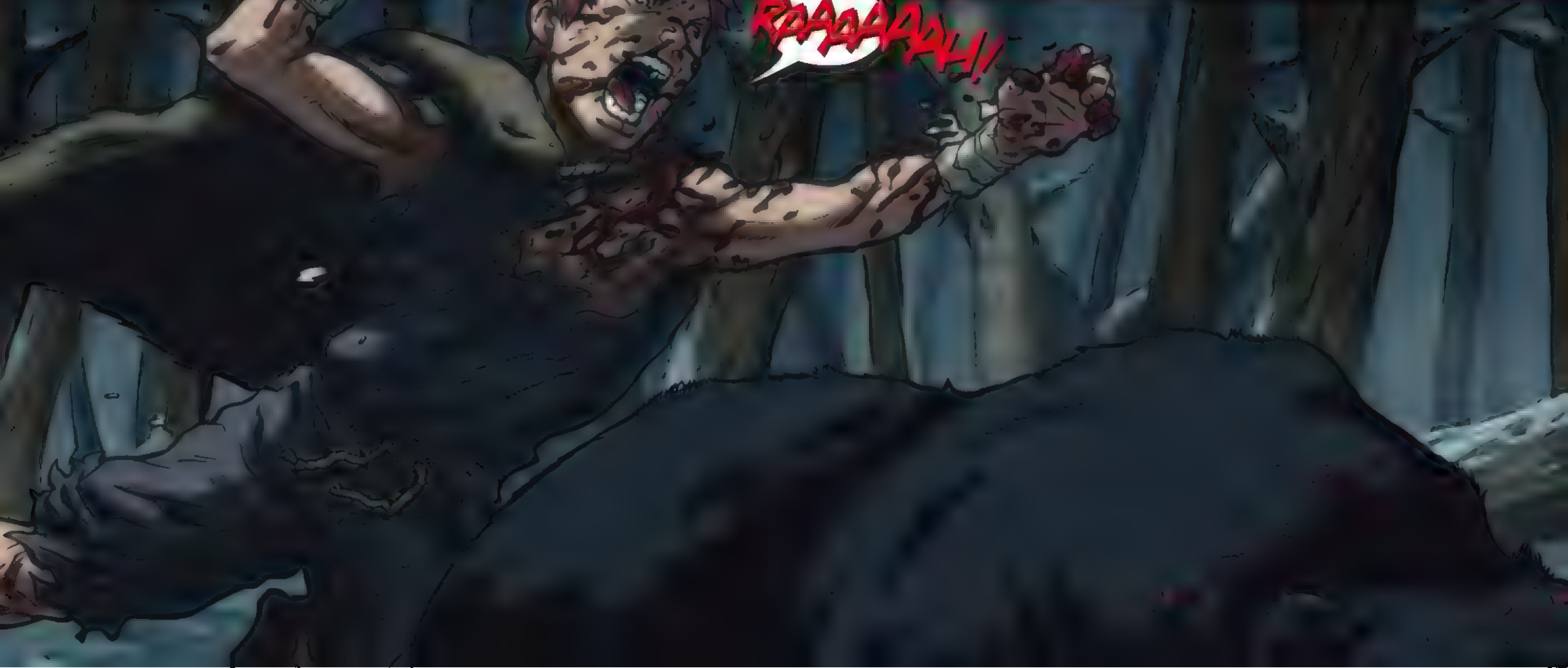
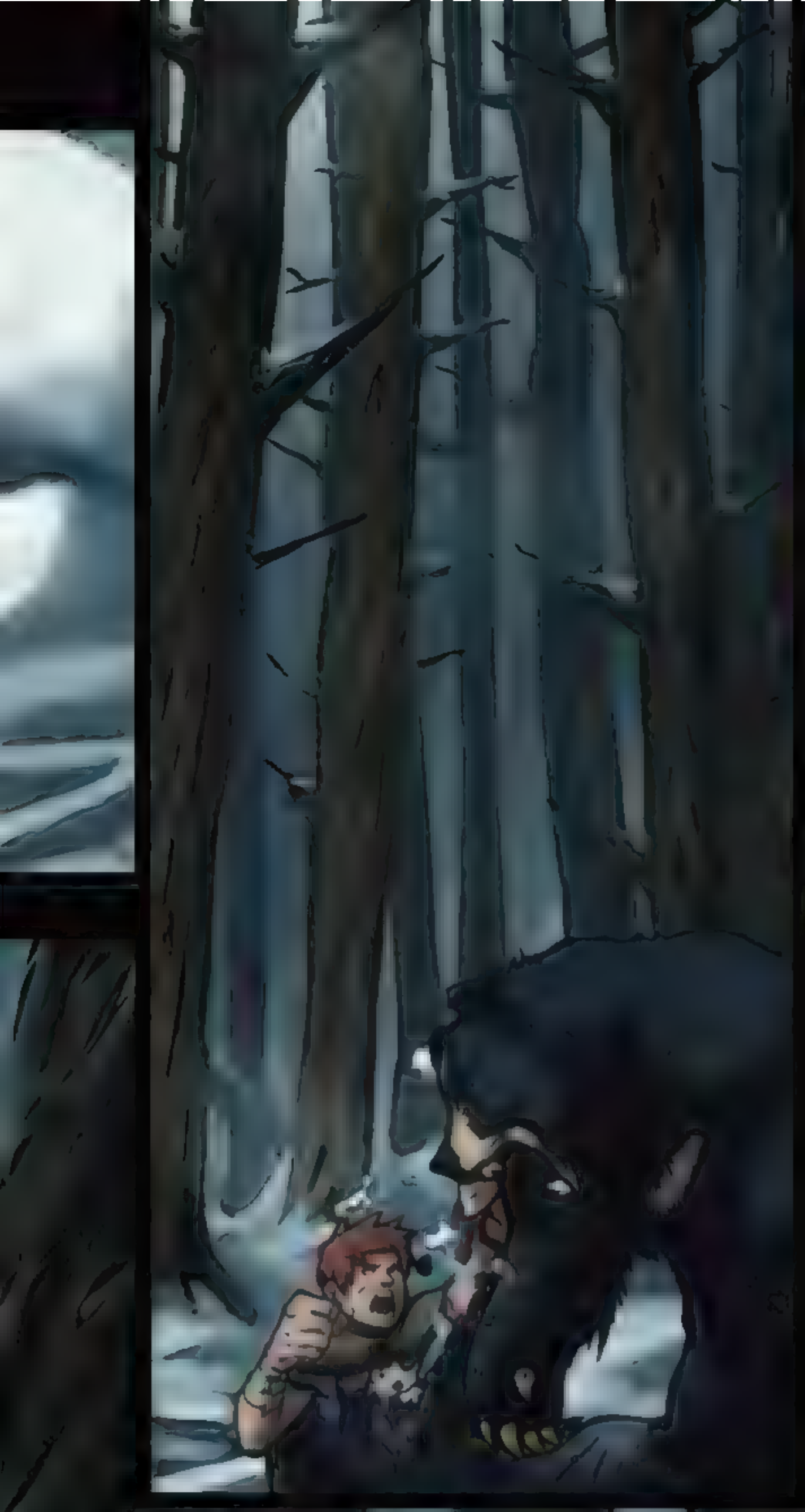




























...WHERE--?

IT SEEMS  
I OWE YOU A  
FAVOUR.

THAT BEAR YOU FOUGHT HAD  
TAKEN UP RESIDENCE ON MY  
PROPERTY. BEEN ENJOYING THE  
EASY PICKINGS OF MY LIVESTOCK  
FOR WEEKS. IT WAS NOT HARD  
TO CATCH HIM AFTER YOUR  
ENCOUNTER.

IN THE FUTURE  
HOWEVER, FOR  
YOUR SAKE, YOU MIGHT  
WANT TO REFRAIN  
FROM ATTACKING A  
BEAST LIKE THAT  
HEAD ON.



WHO ARE  
YOU?! WHERE  
IS THIS?



RELAX BOY.  
YOU HAVE BEEN  
HERE FOR DAYS  
NOW. WHAT IS  
ONE MORE?

BESIDES,  
YOU HAVE NOWHERE  
TO GO. YOUR BROTHER  
WILL SURELY HAVE  
MOVED ON BY  
NOW.



WORD OF YOUR FATHER'S  
DEATH SPREAD QUICKLY. THE  
WIND HAS A WAY OF CARRYING  
EVERY WHISPER OUT HERE  
IN THE HILLS.

YOUR BROTHER  
WOULD BE WISE TO  
ASSUME THOSE SAME  
WHISPERS MIGHT LEAD  
HIS ENEMIES TO  
HIM.

WHEN I FOUND  
YOU IN THE FOREST  
I COULD HARDLY BELIEVE  
THE RESEMBLANCE. THE  
SPITTING IMAGE OF  
YOUR FATHER AT  
YOUR AGE.

HOW DO  
I KNOW YOU'RE  
NOT ONE OF  
THEM?

WHY OF  
COURSE...

YOU...  
YOU KNEW MY  
FATHER?





...I TRAINED HIM.



RETSU HERE IS LEAVING TOMORROW IN SEARCH OF YOUR BROTHER.

I HAVE COME TO REALIZE MY PLACE IS TO BE FIXATED HERE IN THE DOJO. MANY VISIT AND MANY LEAVE BUT IT IS MY PLACE ONLY TO STAY.

IF YOU ARE WELL ENOUGH YOU CAN JOIN H--

MY BROTHER IS GONE.



YOU WON'T FIND HIM. HE DOESN'T WANT TO BE FOUND.

HE ONLY TRUSTS HIMSELF. BUT I'M HERE...

...IF YOU KNOW MY FATHER THEN YOU KNOW ME. I WANT TO KNOW WHAT HE KNEW...



...I WANT TO KNOW ANSATSUKEN.

VERY WELL. IF THIS IS YOUR CHOICE...

...LET OUR TRAINING BEGIN.

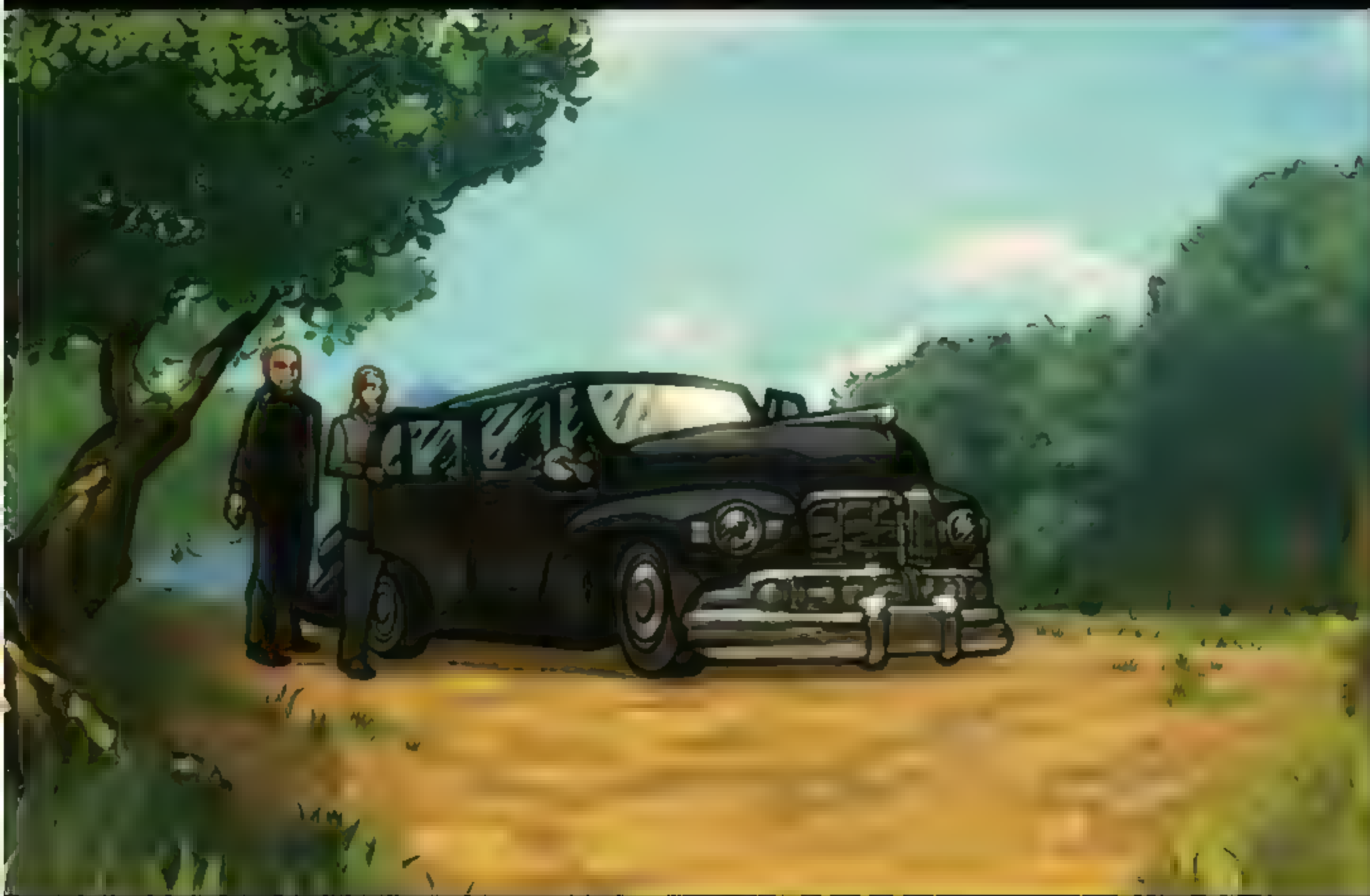


# CHAPTER THREE: THE TIDE

Spring.  
Five years later.











FORGIVE  
MY RUDENESS...  
I KNOW NOT  
WHO YOU  
ARE.

WHO I AM  
IS UNIMPORTANT. WHAT  
I DO IS FAR MORE  
INTERESTING.

I'M A **FIGHT  
PROMOTER**.  
IN TOKYO. YOU  
HAVE HEARD OF  
TOKYO, YES?



OVER THE YEARS I'VE WORKED WITH A  
NUMBER OF YOUR FORMER STUDENTS. YOU'VE  
PRODUCED SOME OF THE MOST RELIABLE  
FIGHTERS IN MY STABLE. YOUR OUTPUT  
IS IMPRESSIVE.

YOU MIGHT  
SAY...HEH...  
WE'RE BUSINESS  
PARTNERS YOU  
AND I.



SOME OF MY CURRENT FIGHTERS, THOSE THAT  
HAVE STUDIED UNDER YOU, CAN'T STOP TALKING  
ABOUT A YOUNG FIGHTER TRAINING HERE IN  
RECENT YEARS. STRONG, CONTROLLED...  
THE QUICKEST, MOST DANGEROUS  
THEY'VE SEEN.

I WANT  
TO MEET  
HIM.

**AKUMA.**  
MY FASTEST LEARNER. BUILT  
FOR FIGHTING. THEY CAN ONLY  
BE REFERRING TO AKUMA.



PERHAPS  
YOU COULD HELP  
PERSUADE HIM  
TO SPEAK WITH  
ME.

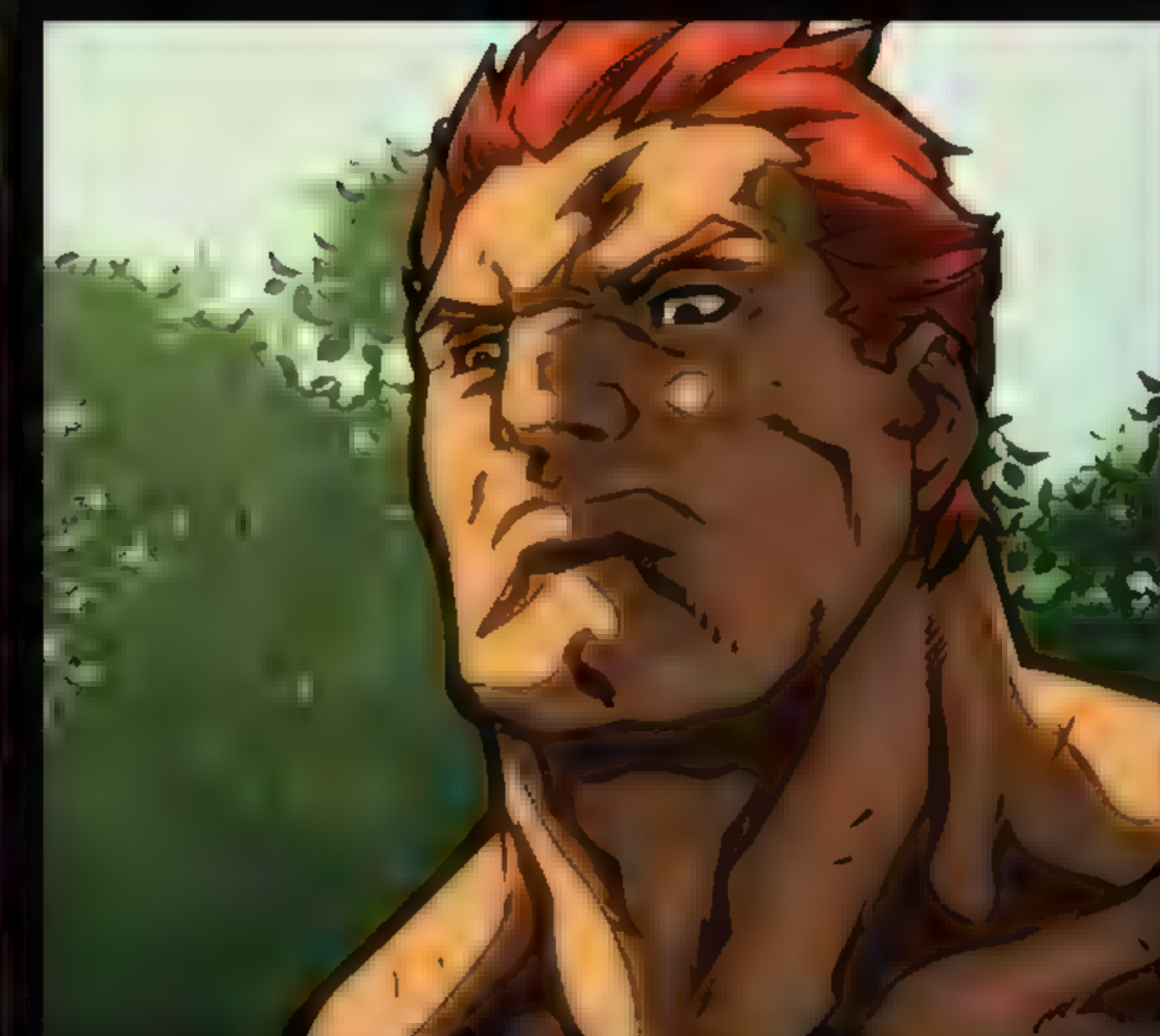


HERE WE HONOR OUR STUDENTS'  
FREEDOM TO MAKE THEIR OWN  
CHOICES.

YOU HAVE HEARD  
OF HONOR, YES?

YOU WILL  
FIND HIM OUT  
BACK. IN THE  
GARDEN.







AKUMA.  
YOU SEEM LIKE  
A SERIOUS MAN SO I  
WON'T WASTE YOUR TIME.  
I HAVE TRAVELLED A  
LONG WAY TODAY  
BECAUSE I WANTED  
TO MEET YOU.

I WANT TO KNOW  
WHY IT IS YOU INSIST ON HIDING OUT HERE IN  
THE HILLS. WHETHER YOU MIGHT CONSIDER LEAVING.  
THE WAY SOME OF MY FIGHTERS TALK ABOUT YOU--

YOUR  
FIGHTERS?

YES, THE WAY SOME OF MY FIGHTERS TALK  
ABOUT YOU... THEY ARE IN *AWE* OF YOU AKUMA.  
*FEARFUL* OF YOU. THEY SPEAK OF YOU LIKE  
YOU ARE A... *AHHH*, IT IS DIFFICULT  
TO EXPRESS.

YOU ARE  
BIGGER THAN THIS  
LIFE AKUMA. YOU *MUST*  
KNOW THAT. WITH THE  
RIGHT GUIDANCE  
YOU--

WHAT  
DO YOU  
WANT?

COME  
WORK FOR  
ME.

I ORGANIZE  
PRIZE FIGHTS  
THROUGHOUT TOKYO.  
I AM WELL KNOWN.  
A MAN OF YOUR STATURE  
AND SKILL, WITH MY  
GUIDANCE... WE CAN  
MAKE A LOT OF  
MONEY.

ROOM,  
BOARD, FOOD...  
ALL EXPENSES  
WILL BE PAID  
FOR.

AND  
YOU WOULDN'T  
BE ALONE. I TOLD  
YOU MANY OF  
YOUR OLD FRIENDS  
WORK FOR ME.

TALK TO  
THEM AND YOU'LL  
SEE. YOU'LL SEE  
THE LIFE I'VE  
GIVEN THEM.

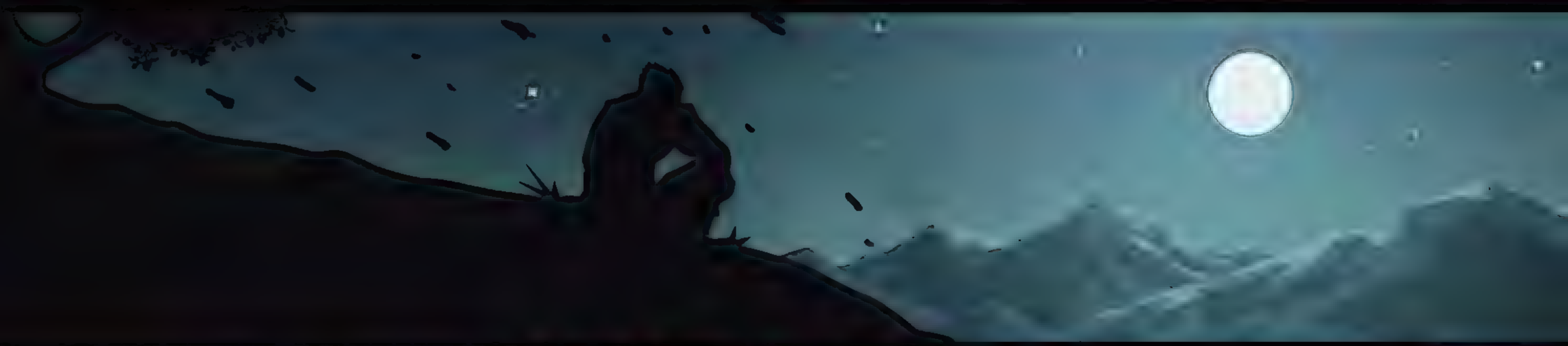
MONEY...  
FAME...  
WOMEN.

THERE IS  
SO MUCH MORE  
BEYOND THE RICE  
FIELDS AKUMA, IF  
ONLY YOU WOULD  
EXPLORE IT.









AKUMA...



...YOU TRULY ARE YOUR FATHER'S SON. ALWAYS DRAWN TO A FIGHT. EVEN IF IT IS WITH YOURSELF.

PLEASE. COME INSIDE. ANSWERS TO DIFFICULT QUESTIONS HAVE A WAY OF REVEALING THEMSELVES IN DUE TIME.

IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE MASTER.



YOU HAVE DECIDED TO GO WITH HIM.

NO, NOT WITH HIM.

AH. PERHAPS I SHOULD REPHRASE.

HAVE YOU DECIDED TO GO?

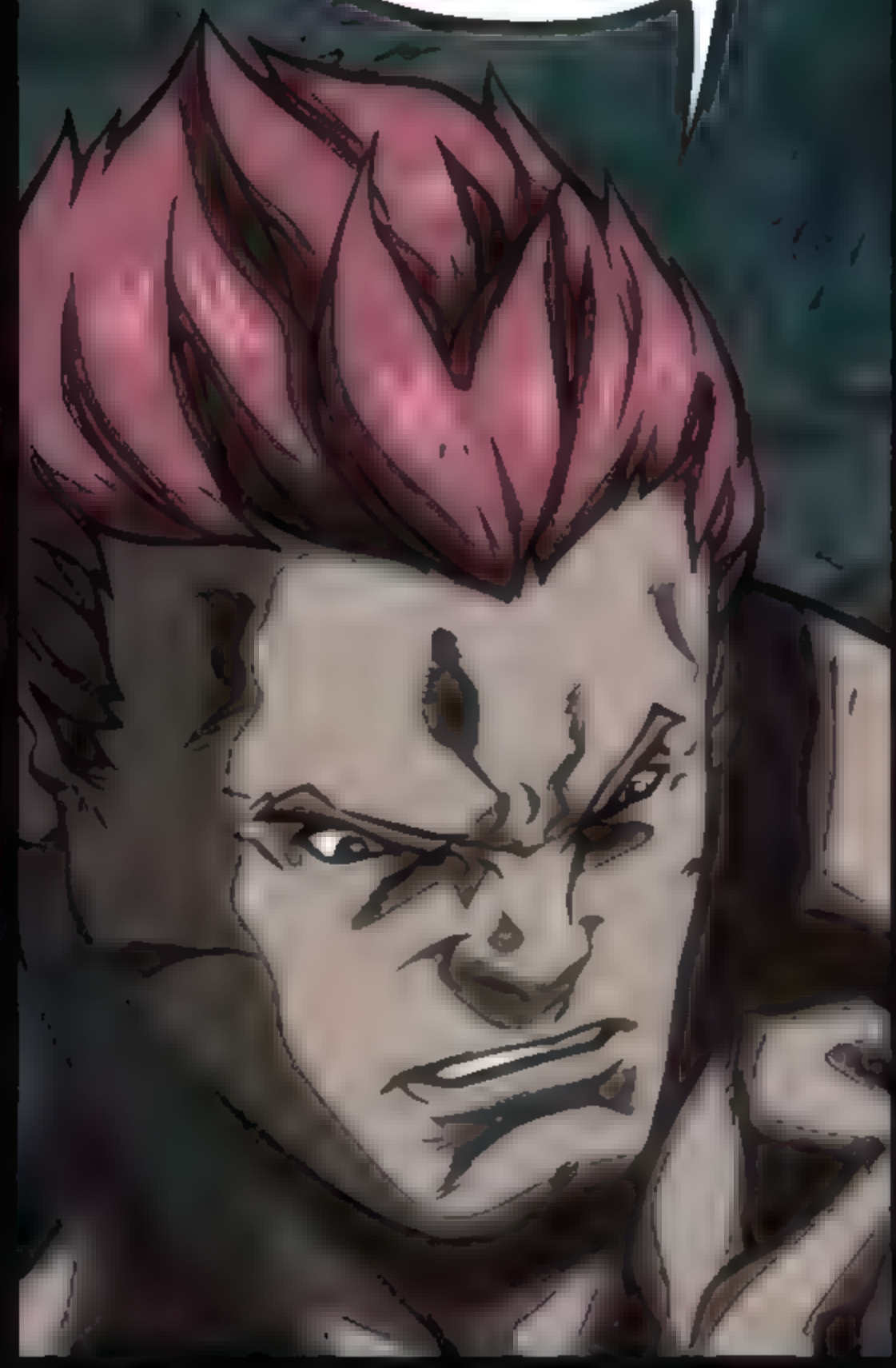


YOU HAVE GIVEN ME A HOME HERE. HOW CAN I LEAVE MY HOME?


AND YET?

YET I... I FEEL AS THOUGH THERE IS SOMETHING BEYOND THESE HILLS. SOMETHING CALLING TO ME.





YOUR TRAINING HAS CHANGED MY BODY FROM THAT OF A CHILD... SMALL, WEAK... TO THAT OF A MAN. FOR THAT I AM GRATEFUL.




BUT CAN I REALLY CALL MYSELF A MAN IF I NEVER LEAVE HERE? MY FATHER'S SHELTER ON THE FARM TURNED TO MY BROTHER'S SHELTER IN THE MOUNTAINS AND NOW YOUR SHELTER HERE.

WHAT KIND OF A MAN WILL I BE IF I AM ONLY EVER TUCKED AWAY FROM THE WORLD? EVEN MY FATHER, DESPITE THE LIFE YOU GAVE HIM, FELT THE NEED TO SEEK MORE--

YOUR FATHER LOST HIS WAY AND PAID A DIRE PRICE. MORE THAN YOU CAN EVER KNOW.


BUT HIS CHOICES, HIS PATH, HOWEVER EVIL, MADE ME.



YOUR LOGIC IS TROUBLING AKUMA. THIS IS A SLIPPERY SLOPE.

YOUR FATHER'S CHOICES AWAKENED HIM TO THE DARKNESS IN MEN... A DARKNESS HE WOULD NEVER WANT YOU TO KNOW.

THE REGRET HE CARRIED NEVER LEFT HIM. THE FACT THAT HE SHELTERED YOU AND YOUR BROTHER FROM THE TRUTH IS PROOF OF THAT.



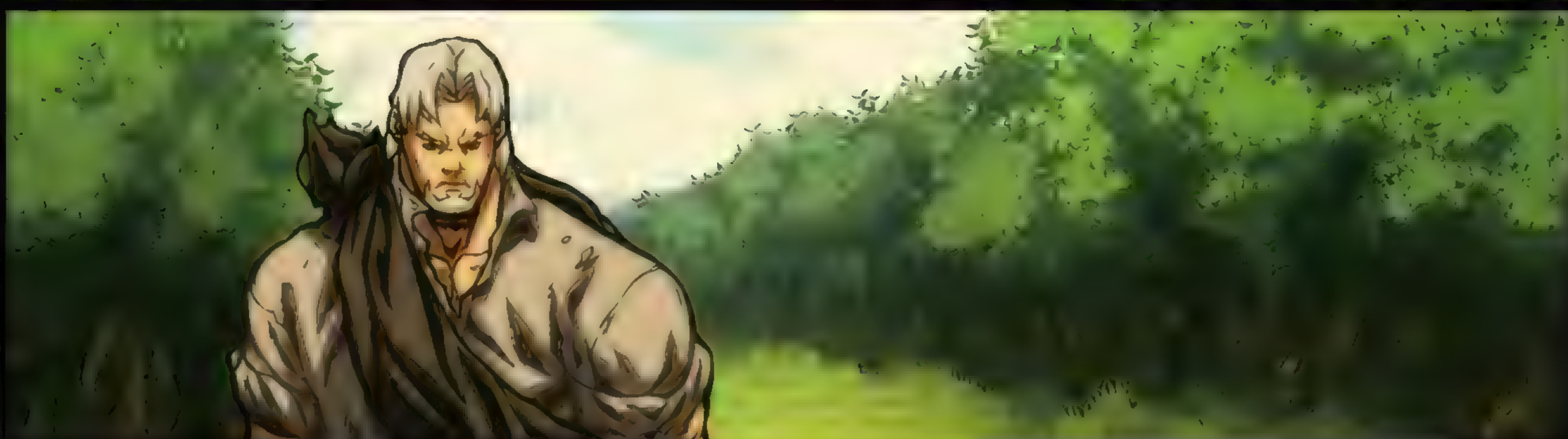
MAYBE THAT SHELTER, LIKE THE ONE I HIDE IN HERE, HAS ONLY KEPT ME FROM WHO I TRULY AM.



OH? AND WHO IS THAT?

DON'T YOU SEE?









MY NAME IS  
GOUKEN. OLDER  
BROTHER TO  
AKUMA.



THERE ARE VERY FEW THINGS  
I KNOW FOR CERTAIN GOUKEN.  
ONE IS THAT AN OLDER BROTHER  
CAN NEVER ABANDON A  
SIBLING.

I CAN ONLY  
ASSUME YOU HAVE  
BEEN MONITORING  
HIS TRAINING FROM  
AFAR.

YES.

AND HERE  
YOU ARE. BUT A  
FEW FEET AWAY.  
WHY NOW?



TO OFFER  
YOU MY DEEPEST  
THANKS.

AKUMA HAS  
BECOME LIKE A  
SON. NO GRATITUDE  
IS REQUIRED.

WHAT  
I WANT IS  
THE **REAL**  
REASON.



I... I...

AND I SEE THAT  
LIKE MOST ELDER  
BROTHERS YOU CARRY  
SUCH **WEIGHT** ON  
YOUR SHOULDERS.

COME  
GOUKEN. YOU HAVE  
NOTHING TO FEAR  
HERE. OUT WITH  
THE TRUTH.





THE DEATH OF MY FATHER WOUNDED ME DEEPLY, GOUTETSU. IN MANY WAYS...

"LEARNING ABOUT MY FATHER'S SECRET PAST WAS TOO MUCH FOR MY YOUNG MIND TO PROCESS.

"THAT THE SIMPLE RICE FARMER I KNEW WAS ONCE A MURDEROUS ASSASSIN... THAT THE HANDS HE USED TO HOLD HIS CHILDREN WERE ONCE USED TO CRIPPLE AND KILL... IT WAS BEYOND MY COMPREHENSION.

"THE SHOCK MADE ME UNTRUSTING... OF ANYONE. IF ONE CANNOT TRUST HIS FATHER THAN WHOM CAN HE TRUST? FROM THAT DAY FORWARD I WAS DETERMINED TO PROTECT MY FAMILY ON MY OWN TERMS.

"RELYING ON THE ONLY PERSON WHOSE INTENTIONS I WAS CLEARLY CERTAIN OF. ME."

AND NOW?  
A SUDDEN  
CHANGE OF  
PERSPECTIVE?

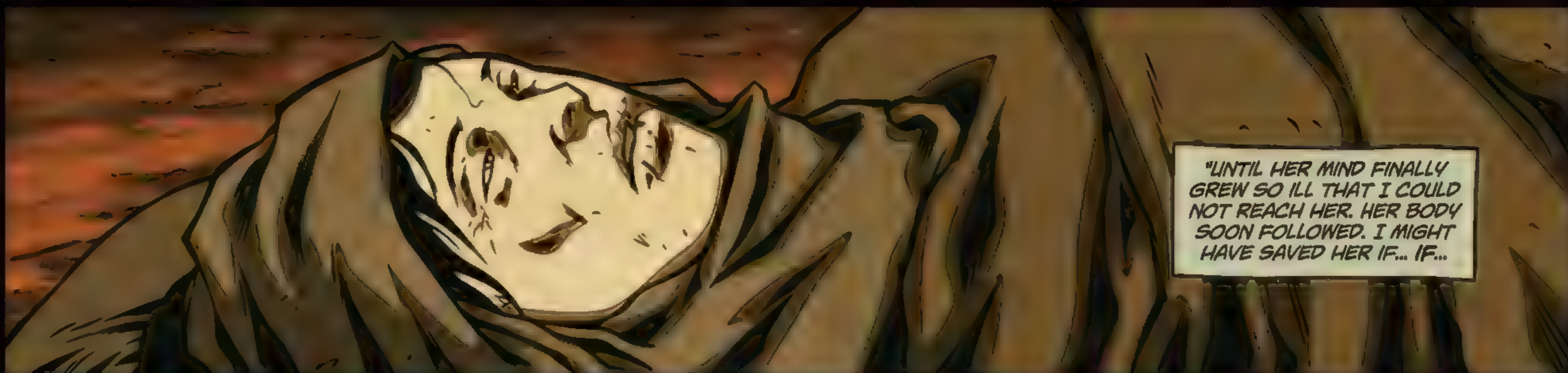
THE CHANGE  
HAS BEEN FAR  
FROM SUDDEN. A  
SLOW AGONY,  
GOUTETSU...

CARING FOR  
MY MOTHER WAS  
NOT EASY. HER  
MIND... THE TRAUMA  
SEEMED TO DRAIN  
HER OF THE WILL  
TO LIVE.

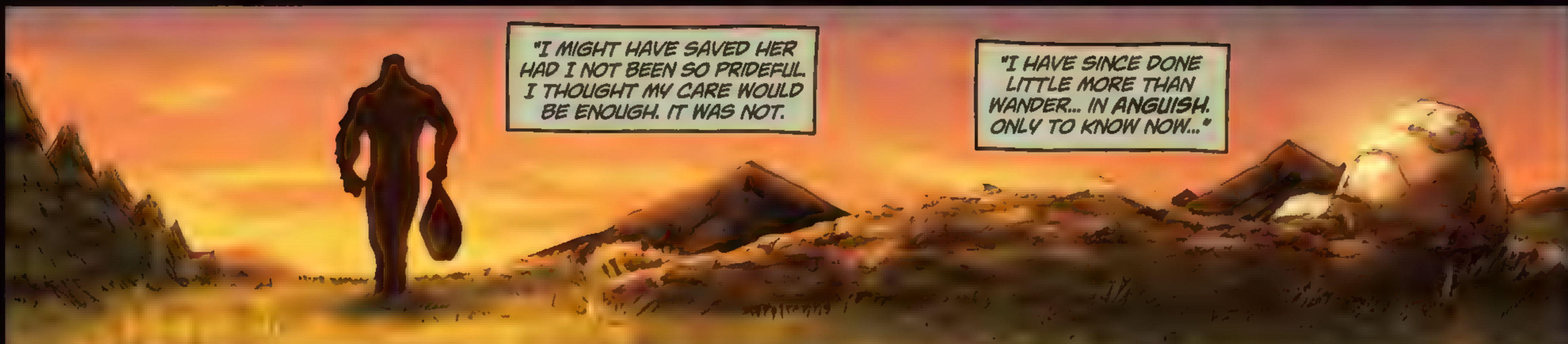
SHE OFTEN  
REFUSED TO TALK.  
SOMETIMES EVEN REFUSING  
TO EAT. THERE WERE WEEKS  
SHE SEEMED HER OLD SELF BUT  
THEN... THEN OTHERS WHEN  
SHE WOULD REGRESS.  
UNTIL...

GO ON.





"UNTIL HER MIND FINALLY GREW SO ILL THAT I COULD NOT REACH HER. HER BODY SOON FOLLOWED. I MIGHT HAVE SAVED HER IF... IF..."



"I MIGHT HAVE SAVED HER HAD I NOT BEEN SO PRIDEFUL. I THOUGHT MY CARE WOULD BE ENOUGH. IT WAS NOT."

"I HAVE SINCE DONE LITTLE MORE THAN WANDER... IN ANGUISH. ONLY TO KNOW NOW..."



"...THAT A MAN CANNOT STAND ALONE."

PLEASE GOUTETSU... I HUMBLY ASK THAT YOU ALLOW ME TO STAY. ALLOW ME TO TRAIN WITH--

STAND UP, GOUKEN!



YOU MUSTN'T PUNISH YOURSELF ANY LONGER. YOUR PENANCE IS OVER. THIS IS YOUR NEW HOME.



AND AKUMA? IT HAS BEEN SO LONG.

AHH. AS ONE WAVE HEADS FOR SHORE, ANOTHER BEGINS TO RISE. IT IS YOUR TRAINING THAT MUST NOW BEGIN.

AKUMA HAS LEFT. I CAN ONLY HOPE HE WILL RETURN...



"...ONCE HE HAS SEEN ALL HE NEEDS TO SEE."



# CHAPTER FOUR: BEYOND THE HILLS

Tokyo.  
Some years later.

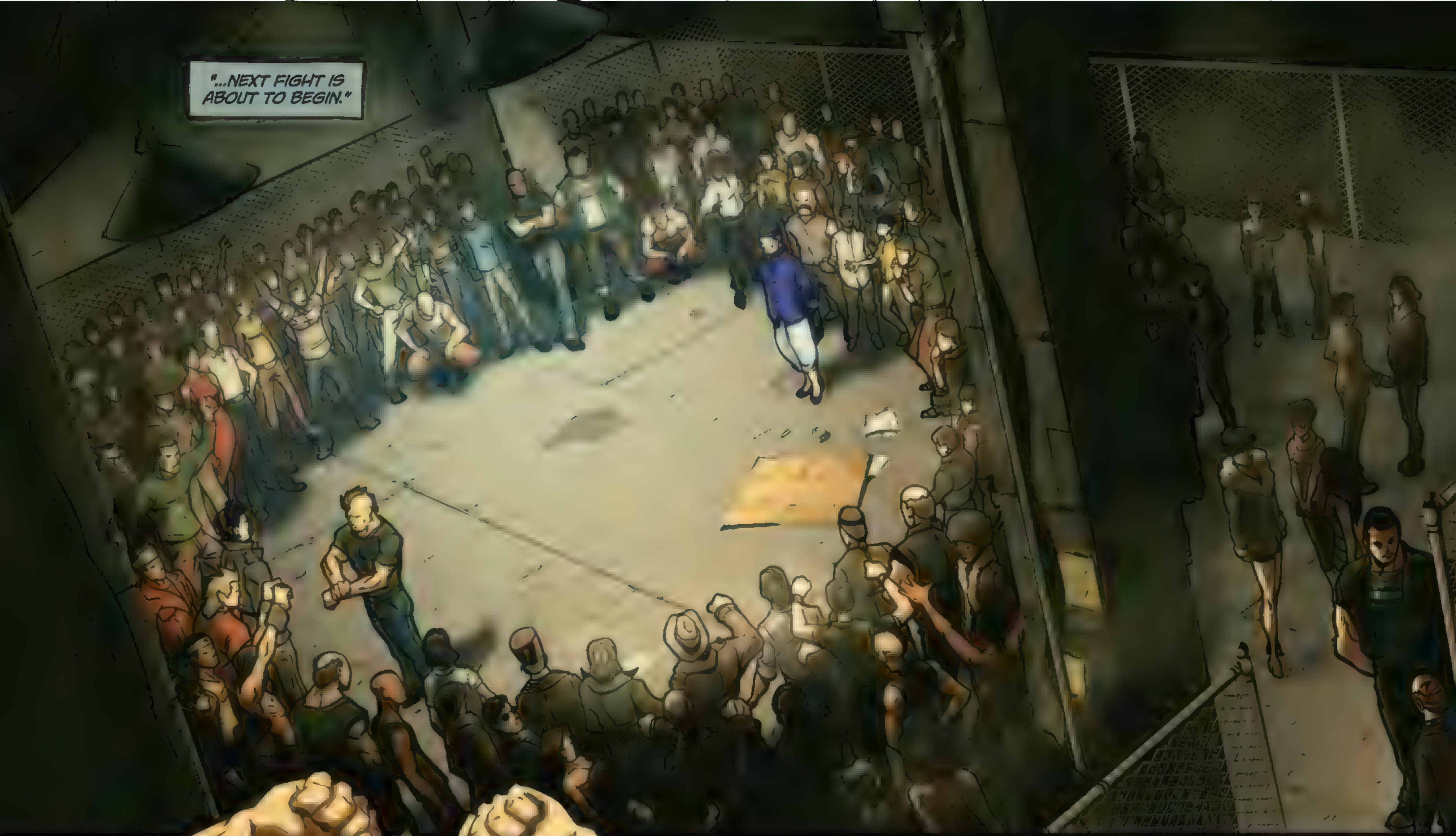








"...NEXT FIGHT IS ABOUT TO BEGIN."







"...THE CHINESE FIGHTER IS TOO LOOSE. HIS ATTACKS ARE OBVIOUS, TELEGRAPHED BY HIS EYES."



"THE AMERICAN IS STRONG BUT SLOW. THAT KICK SHOULD HAVE BEEN EASILY DEFENDED!"

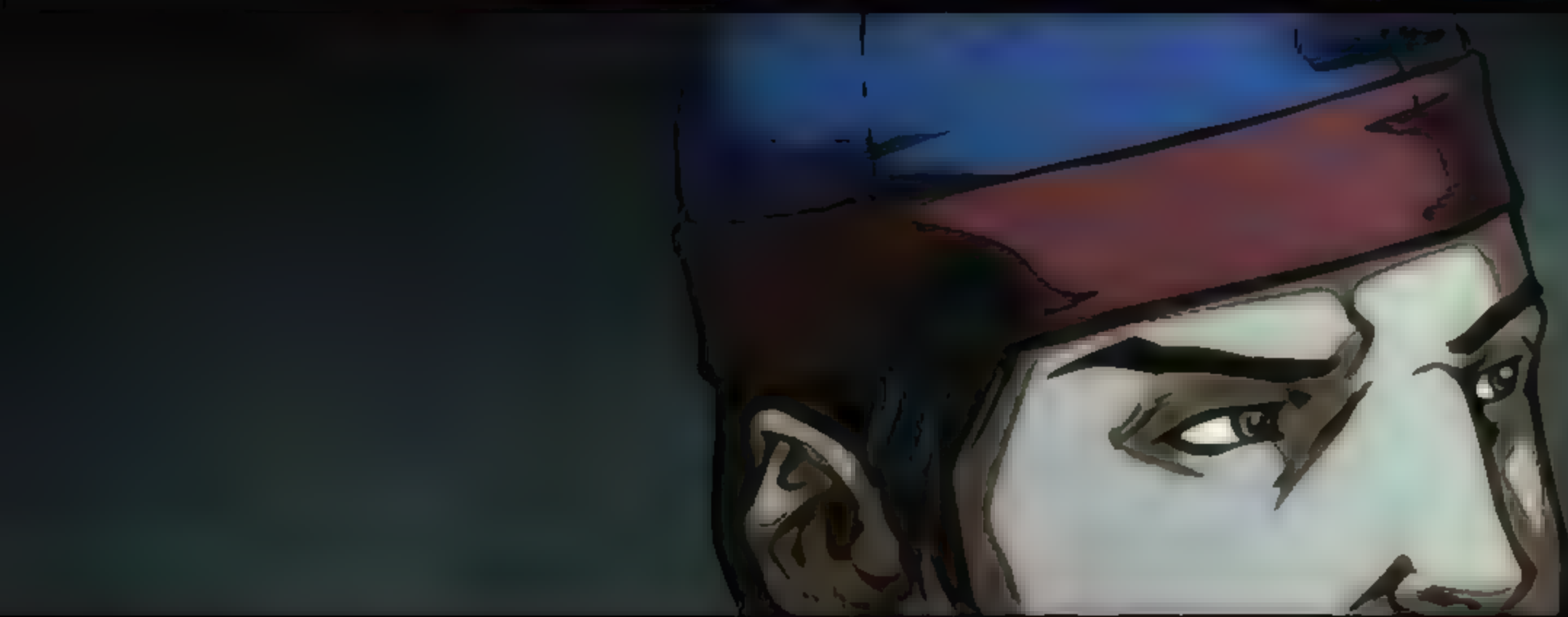
"A NOVICE FOLLOW UP. IT'S LIKE THE CHINESE GUY HAS NEVER TRAINED!"



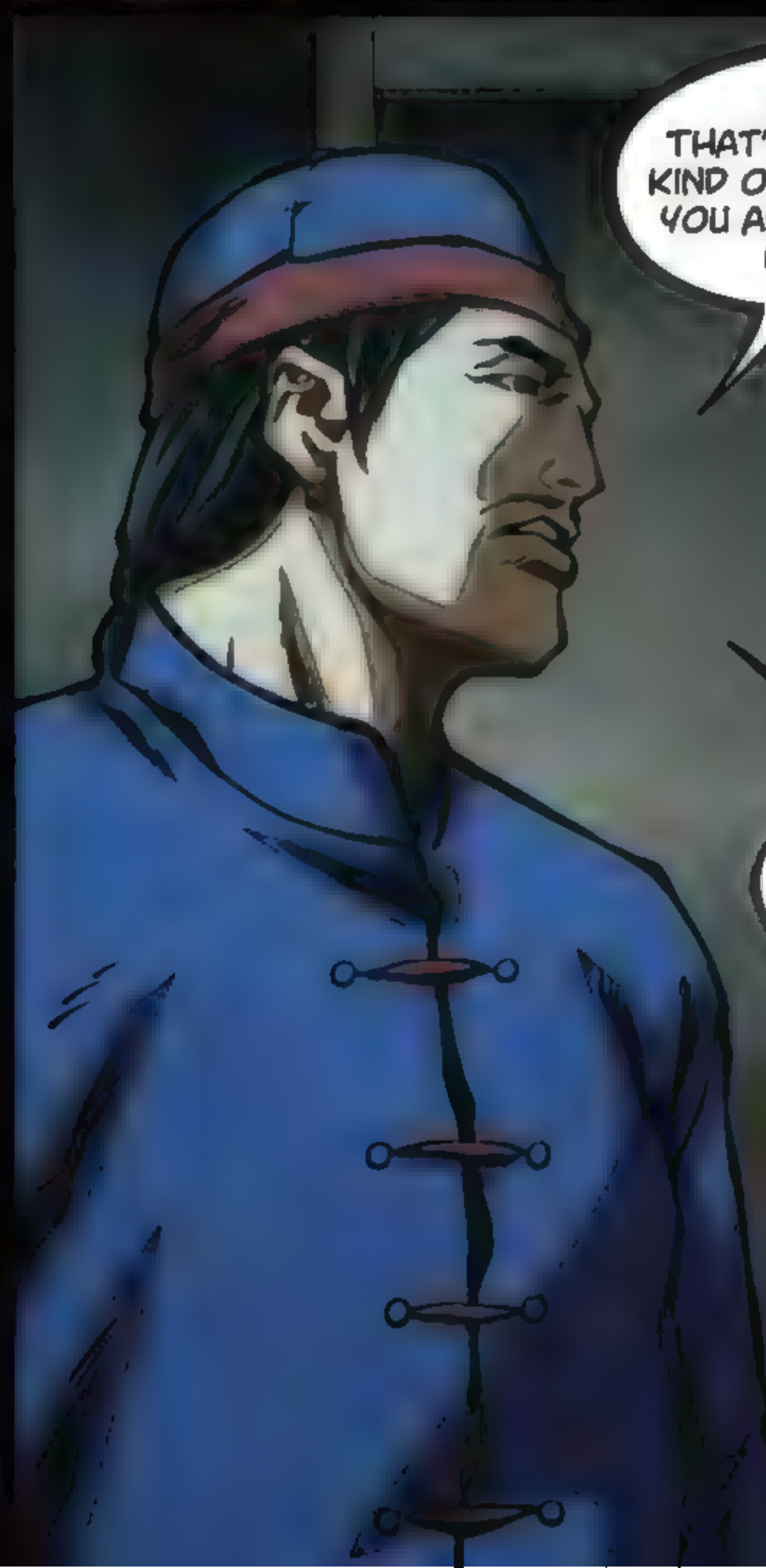








...I'M LOOKING FOR A FIGHT. DO YOU KNOW WHERE I MIGHT FIND ONE?

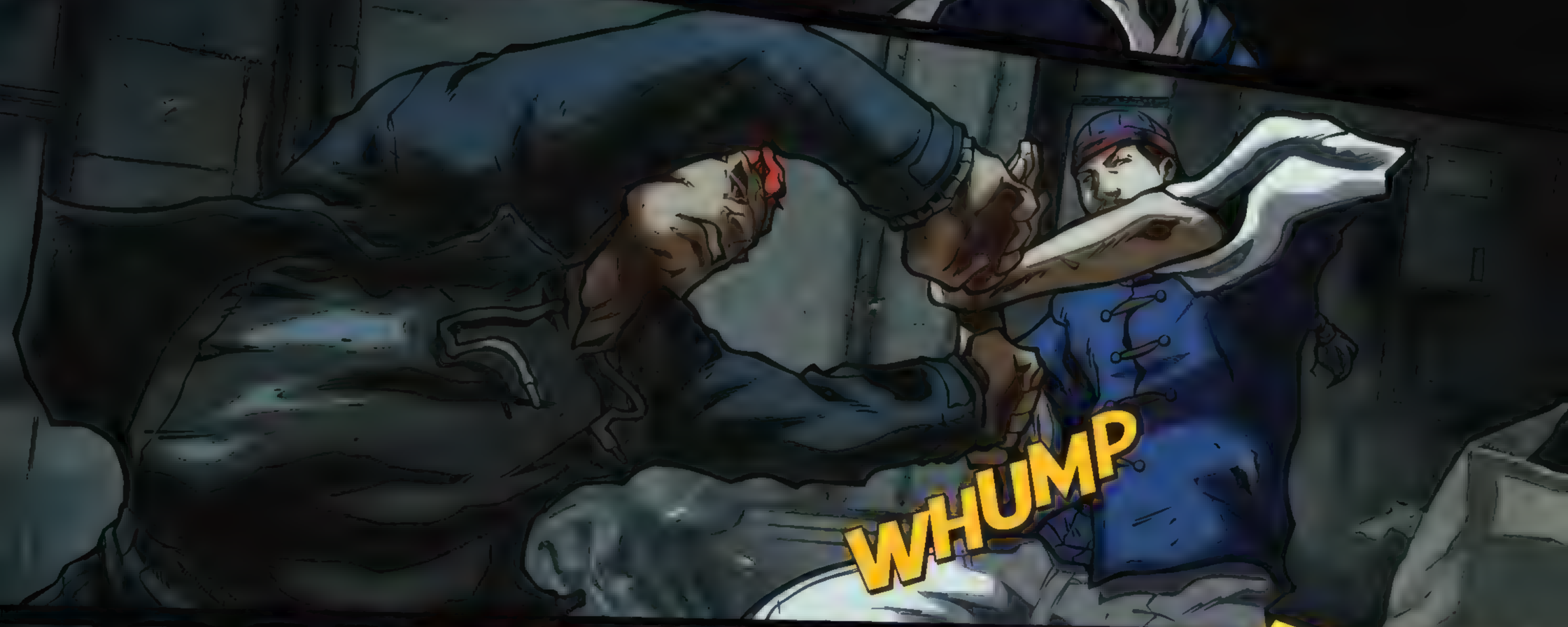


HMF. THAT'S NOT THE KIND OF QUESTION YOU ASK AROUND HERE.

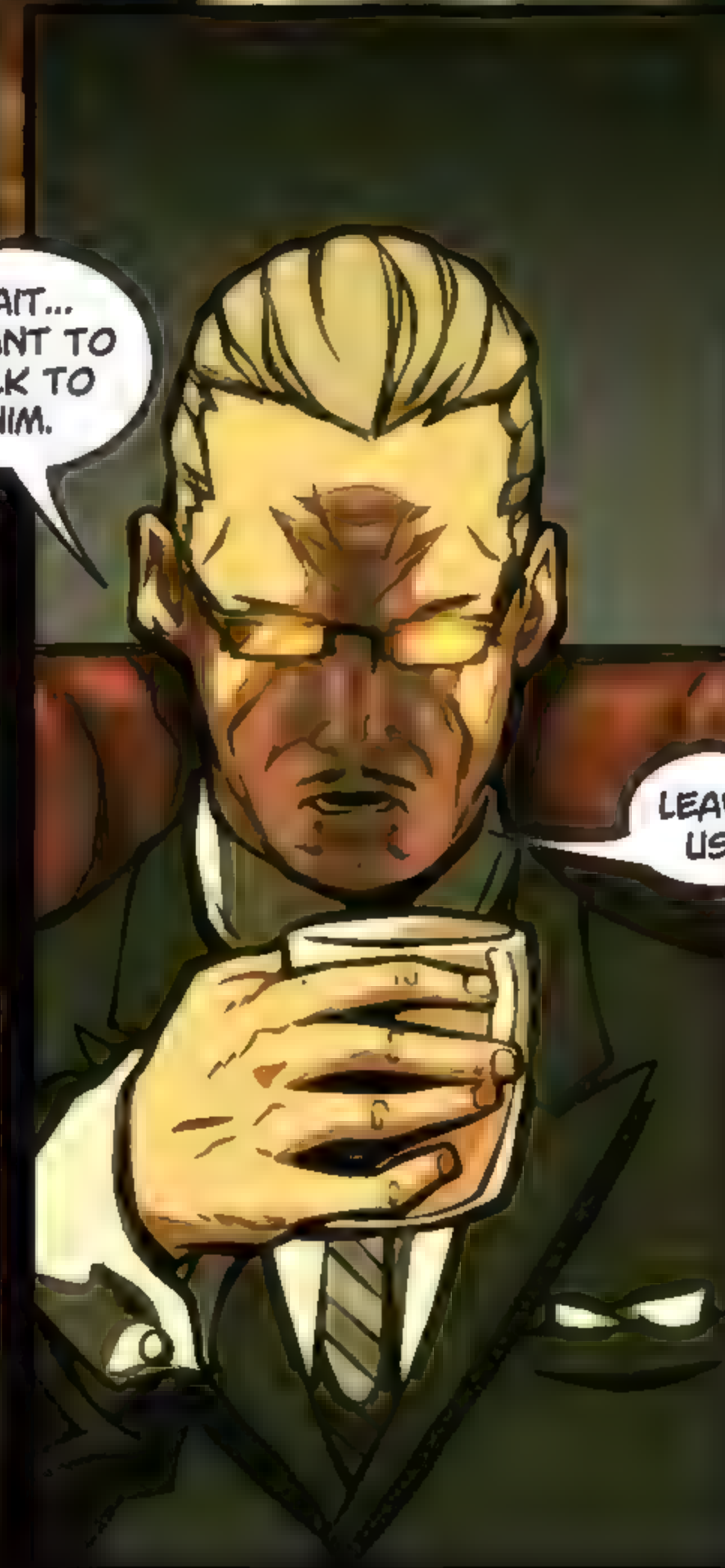
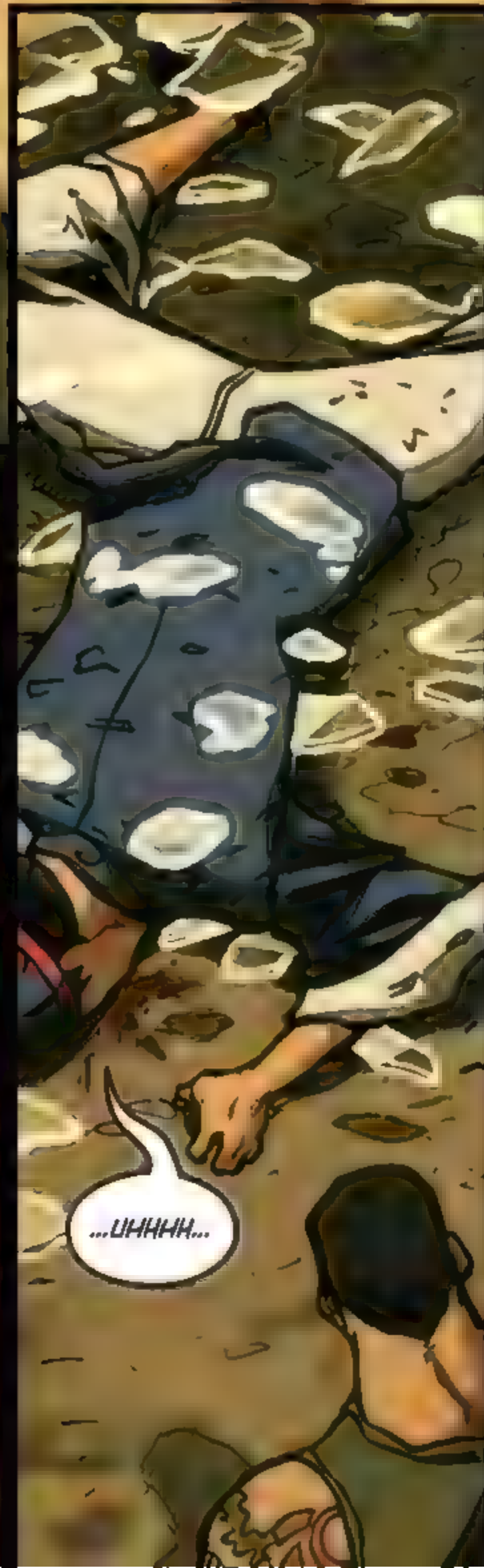


YOU SURE YOU WANT AN ANSWER?













GOOD  
TO SEE TO YOU  
AGAIN AKUMA.  
IT'S BEEN A FEW  
YEARS, NO?



HOW IS  
THE OLD MAN,  
GOUTETSU?



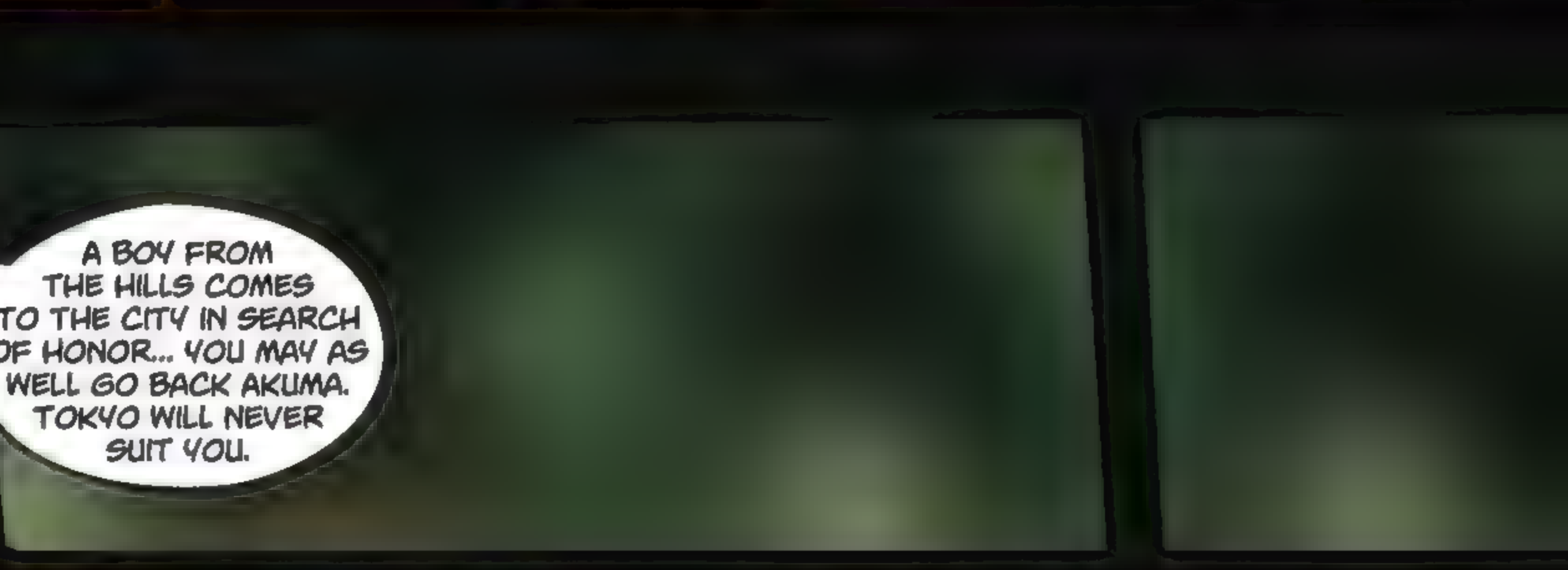
I'VE NOTICED YOU'VE  
BEEN ATTENDING MY FIGHTS NOW  
AND AGAIN. IS THIS JUST THE CANDLE  
CALLING TO THE MOTH? OR ARE YOU  
FINALLY CONSIDERING MY OFFER?  
A FIGHTER WITH YOUR SKILL  
SHOULD BE IN THE RING.



YOUR  
FIGHTERS LACK  
HONOR.



PERHAPS...  
BUT NO MORE  
THAN MOST  
MEN.



A BOY FROM  
THE HILLS COMES  
TO THE CITY IN SEARCH  
OF HONOR... YOU MAY AS  
WELL GO BACK AKUMA.  
TOKYO WILL NEVER  
SUIT YOU.



TOKYO  
INTRIGUES  
ME.





HA. YOU'RE A TERRIBLE LIAR.  
THAT CONTEMPT IN YOUR EYES...  
TOKYO TORMENTS  
YOU.

IT'S OKAY.  
IT TORMENTS  
US ALL.

IT'S ALSO  
CLEAR YOU HAVE  
A STRONG...  
**DISTASTE** FOR  
ME. FOR WHAT  
I DO.

I WOULDN'T  
EXPECT YOU TO  
COMPREHEND. YOU'RE  
YOUNG. ALL YOU KNOW  
IS WHAT YOU SEE.  
LITTLE KNOWLEDGE  
OF THE PAST.

YOU SPEAK LOOSELY  
OF **HONOR**. THE WAY AN  
ANGRY CHILD WOULD WHEN HE  
FIRST CATCHES HIS PARENTS  
IN A LIE. AND LIKE A CHILD YOU  
HAVE YET TO LEARN THE  
WORLD'S GREATEST  
**SECRET**...

...THAT HONOR  
IS A FIGMENT OF THE  
IMAGINATION. THE PRIDE MEN  
CLING TO IN HELPING THEM  
THROUGH THEIR LOWLY  
EXISTENCE.




TAKE  
A LOOK AROUND  
AKUMA...



"...DO YOU THINK ALL THIS IS THE  
PRODUCT OF HONOR? LOOK AT THIS  
CITY. NOTHING MORE THAN A KABUKI  
GIRL SQUEEZED INTO A SEQUINED  
DRESS. JAPAN IS DEAD. SHE DIED  
THE DAY THE AMERICANS DROPPED  
THEIR BOMBS ON US. TO SHOW THE  
WORLD THEIR STRENGTH.

"BURNED OUR SKIES.  
TURNED OUR PEOPLE  
AND THEIR PRECIOUS  
HONOR TO DUST.





WHEN WE FINALLY AWOKE, THE AMERICAN WAY HAD ARRIVED... SHOVING ITS VALUES DOWN OUR THROATS.

THERE WAS NO HONOR IN WHAT HAPPENED TO US. NO AMOUNT OF HONOR THAT COULD HAVE SAVED US.



WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR YOU'LL FIND NOWHERE BUT AT THE BOTTOM OF A BOTTOMLESS PIT.


YOU TALK AS THOUGH YOU THINK I WANT SOMETHING FROM YOU.

YOU WANT WHAT EVERYONE WANTS. ANSWERS.

YOU TRAVEL FROM THE UNTOUCHED HILLS TO THIS JUNGLE, YOU WANDER INTO MY ESTABLISHMENT, YOU SEE FIGHTERS SELL THEIR HONOR FOR A HANDFUL OF MONEY AND YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW THIS IS ALL POSSIBLE. IF HONOR IS LOST, WHAT'S LEFT?




POWER.



THESE AMERICAN VISITORS LOVE THE BLOODLUST. WE GIVE THEM WHAT THEY WANT. A GOOD FIGHT. A REASON TO CHEER ONE OF THEIR OWN.

THEY WAGER WITH THEIR ARROGANCE. WE PAY THEM BACK IN COUNTERFEIT CASH. MY FIGHTERS LOSE FACE BUT GAIN THE ONLY THING THAT MATTERS IN THE NEW JAPAN...

...MONEY. EVERYONE WINS.

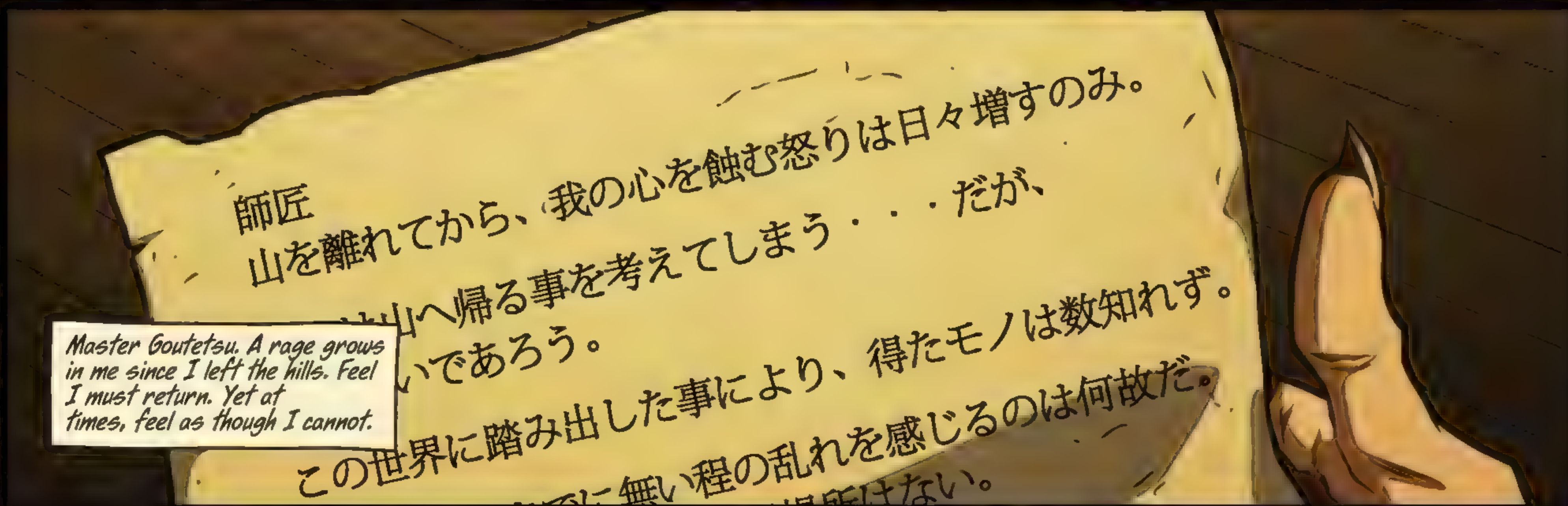
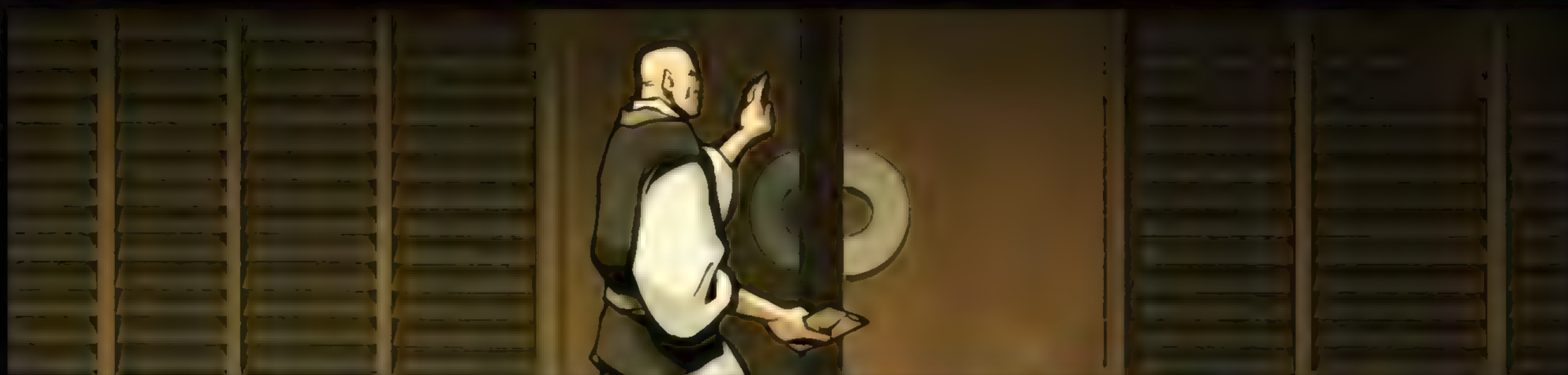


IT'S TIME TO GROW UP AKUMA. WORK FOR ME. GIVE THEM A SHOW.



HELP ME PUNISH THEIR ARROGANCE.





Master Goutetsu. A rage grows in me since I left the hills. Feel I must return. Yet at times, feel as though I cannot.



*I've learned much. Yet  
am more lost than ever.*

*A stranger here, it's like I speak  
a different language. Nothing is  
certain I find. Nothing except this:  
I've learned that power can take  
a man's honor.*

*That power  
can seduce him  
to give it away.*

NEW  
FIGHTER.

WHAT A  
SPECIMEN.

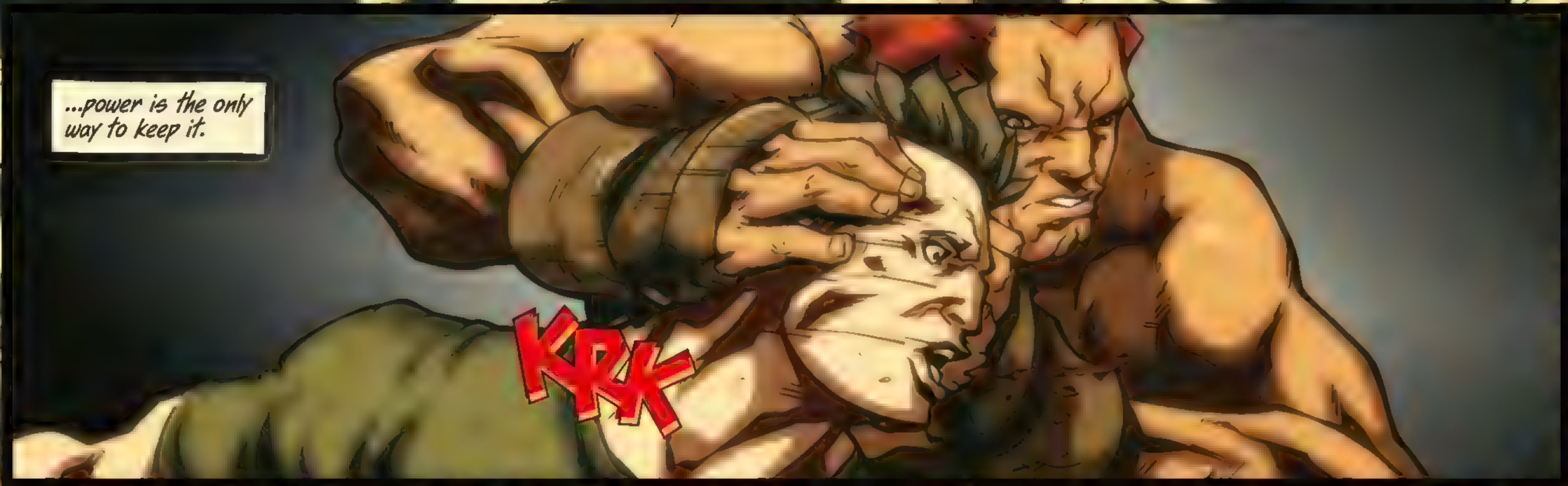
WELL BRED.  
HE WILL GET HIS CHANCE.  
TODAY HE WORKS FOR US. SCHEDULED  
TO FALL IN THE THIRD ROUND.

ROUND  
ONE!

FIGHT!

*And I've learned  
that in a world as  
mad as this one...*





*...power is the only way to keep it.*

**KRK**



*Shall see you soon.  
-Akuma*




# CHAPTER FIVE: ENLIGHTENMENT



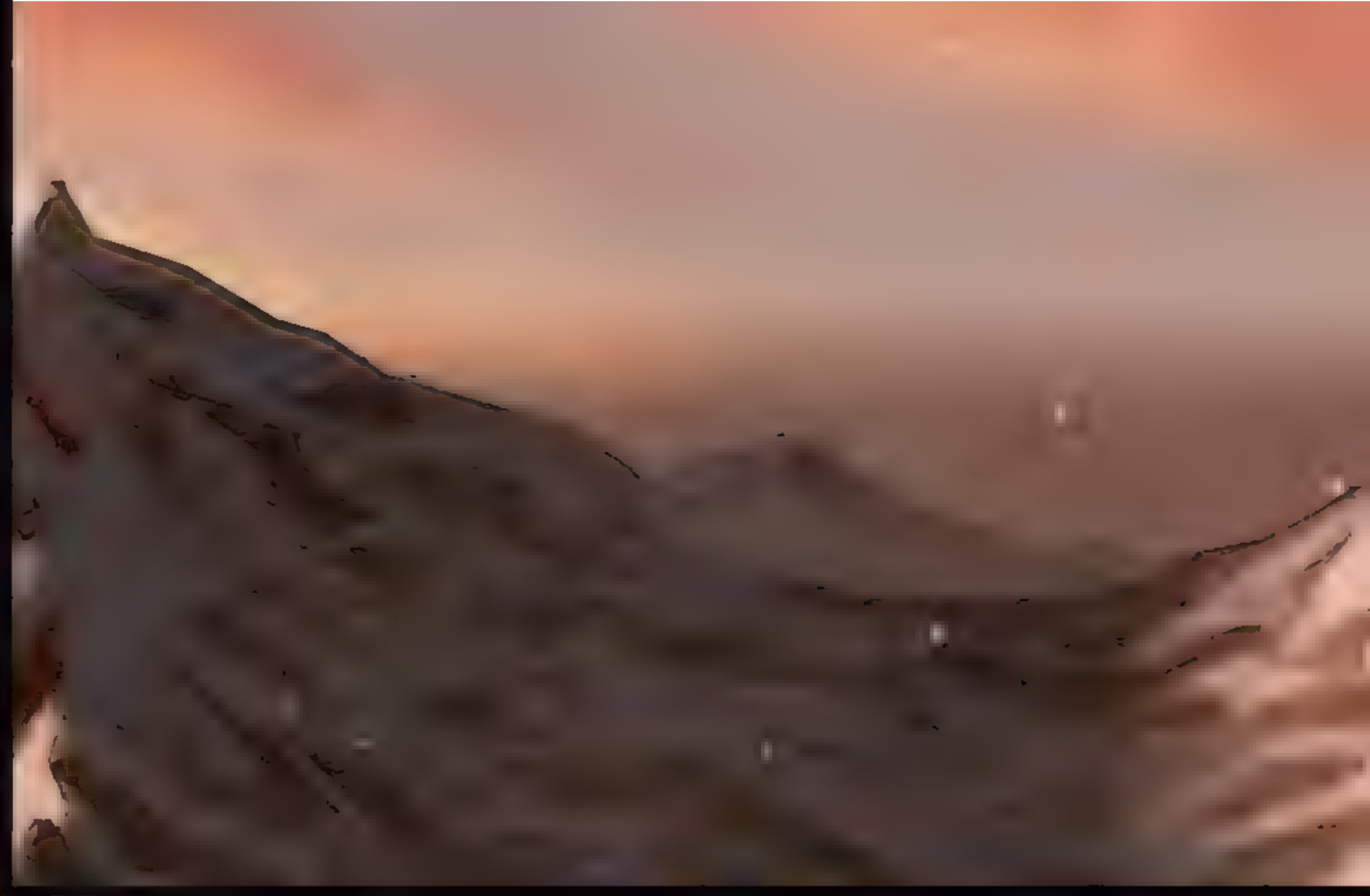




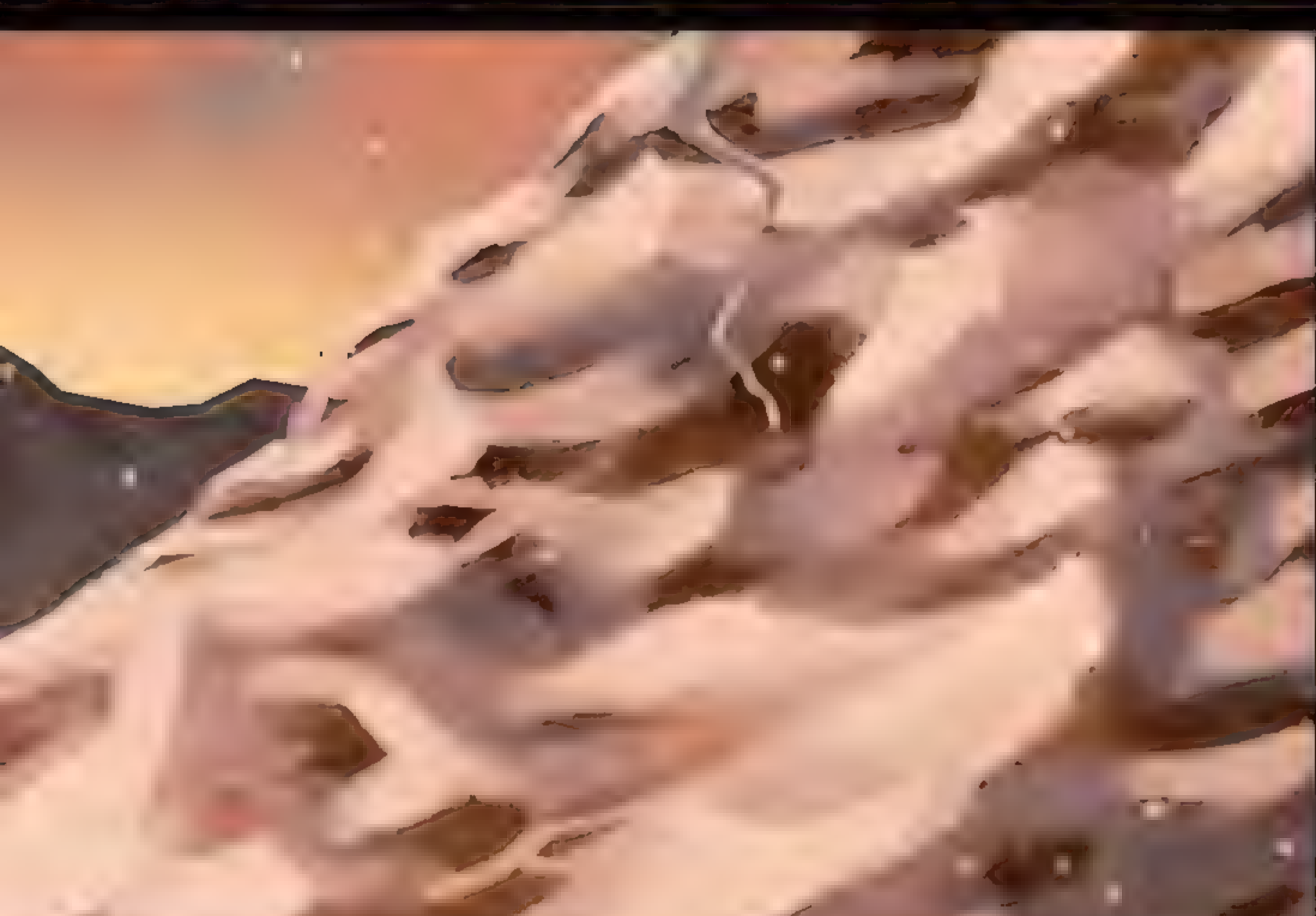





"YOU MUST JOIN MY  
OTHER PUPILS WHO  
HAVE TAKEN REFUGE  
IN THE MOUNTAINS.



"IT IS THERE WHERE YOU MAY  
FINALLY BECOME WHOLE. BUT  
KNOW THAT WHAT YOU SEEK WILL  
NOT COME EASILY, IF AT ALL.




"YOU WILL HAVE  
NO FOOD AND NO  
PROVISIONS FOR  
MANY DAYS.



"YOU WILL BE ALONE.  
AWAITING THE  
ENLIGHTENMENT  
YOU SEEK WILL BE A  
MATTER OF UTTER  
MENTAL FORTITUDE.



"THIS IS SOMETHING  
EARNED ONLY BY  
THE ELITE.



"MANY STUDENTS WHO  
REACH THIS FINAL PHASE  
ARE UNABLE TO COMPLETE  
IT, AND SO NEVER TRULY  
KNOW WHO THEY ARE."





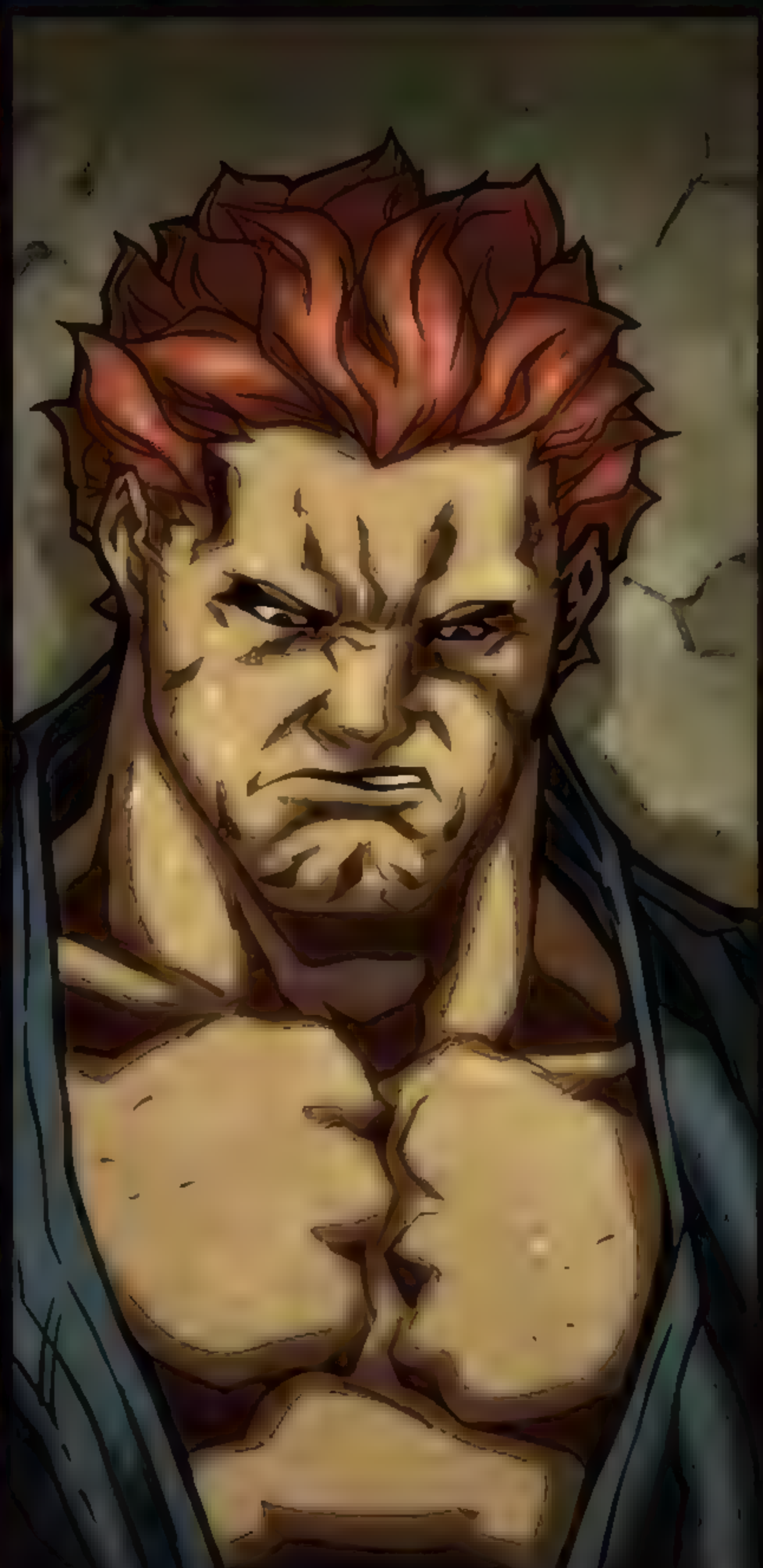
RUN,  
AKUMA! DON'T  
LOOK BACK!

AKUMA!

















DO YOU KNOW  
HOW LONG YOU  
HAVE BEEN  
HERE?

EIGHT...  
TEN DAYS...  
I CANNOT  
SAY...I...

FOURTEEN.



DO NOT DRINK  
TOO FAST. YOUR BODY  
WILL NOT HANDLE THE  
SHOCK.

I HAVE BROUGHT  
FOOD, BUT WE  
WILL WORK UP  
TO IT.

MASTER GOUTETSU IS IMPRESSED.  
OF ALL WHO WERE SENT INTO  
THE MOUNTAINS, ONLY YOU AND  
ONE OTHER WERE ABLE TO  
SUSTAIN.

THOUGH YOU  
MAY NOT REALIZE IT,  
YOU HAVE BROUGHT  
YOUR BODY TO  
WITHIN DAYS OF  
DEATH.

BUT...WHAT IS THE  
PURPOSE? I DON'T  
UNDERSTAND...

WHILE YOUR MIND MAY HAVE NEVER REALIZED HOW CLOSE IT WAS TO DEATH,  
YOUR SPIRIT SENSED THE POSSIBILITY OF THE END. THIS IS A CLARITY ONLY  
FEW ENJOY. THIS IS THE PATH TO **ENLIGHTENMENT**.

SO TELL ME GOUKEN,  
WHAT IS IT THAT YOUR SPIRIT  
TELLS YOU... WHAT IS IT THAT  
YOUR SPIRIT, HAVING SENSED  
THE END, NOW KNOWS  
FOR CERTAIN?



WE MUST REMAIN HUMBLE IN THE ARMS  
OF THE EARTH. WE MUST REMEMBER THAT  
IT IS HER THAT RULES US. THE GIFTS  
GIVEN TO US ARE PRECIOUS AND FRAGILE...  
EASILY LOST. THOSE THAT FIGHT  
MUST FIGHT TO PROTECT. THERE  
IS NOTHING ELSE.

HMF...

...COME  
WITH ME  
GOUKEN.





YOUR WORDS ARE NOBLE, WARRIOR. AND DESPITE MY BEST EFFORTS, I CANNOT DETECT A HINT OF INSINCERITY.

IT IS FOR THIS REASON I MUST ASK ONE FINAL QUESTION...



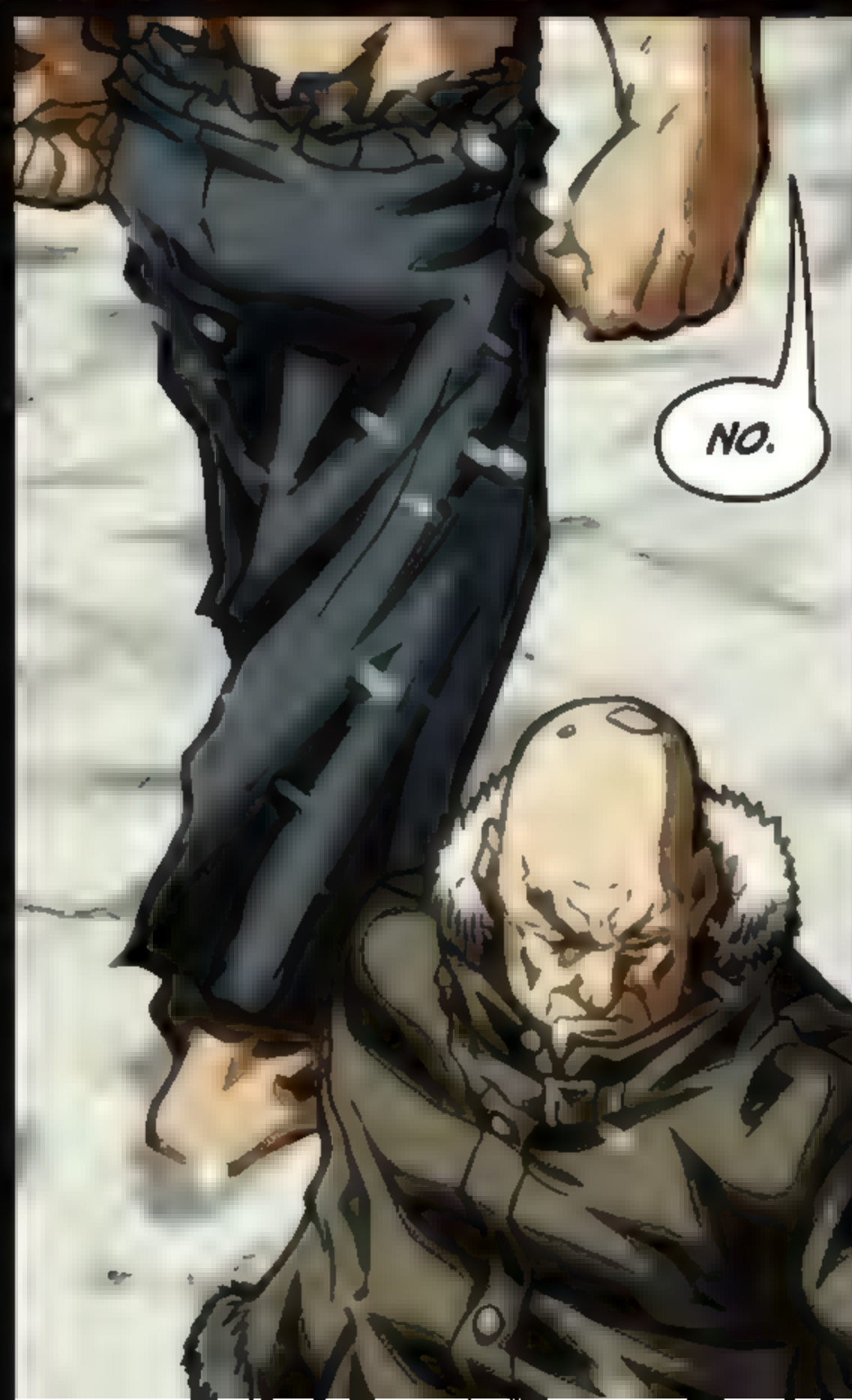
...THE VILLAGE IN THE VALLEY. YOU MUST HAVE NOTICED IT. IT IS ONE OF THE FEW THINGS TO LOOK AT HERE.

I NEED YOU TO FOCUS ON IT NOW...AND TO LISTEN VERY CAREFULLY...

IN THIS VILLAGE RESIDES THE MAN WHO KILLED YOUR FATHER, ALONG WITH HIS COMPANIONS. THEY'VE GROWN OLDER NOW. HAVE FAMILIES OF THEIR OWN. WITH YOUR LEVEL OF TRAINING AND SKILL THEY WOULD BE LITTLE CHALLENGE TO YOU. AND SO I MUST ASK...



...HAS YOUR ANSWER CHANGED?



NO.



THEN YOUR TRAINING IS COMPLETE.

RETSU... THE OTHER YOU SPOKE OF... THE OTHER TO COMPLETE THE TRAINING.

WHO IS IT?



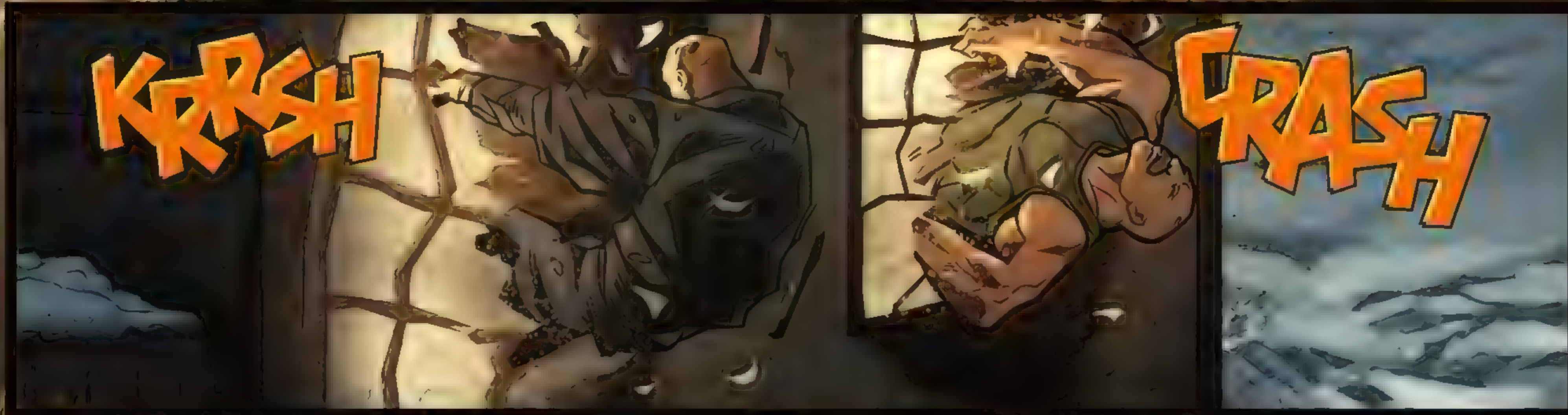
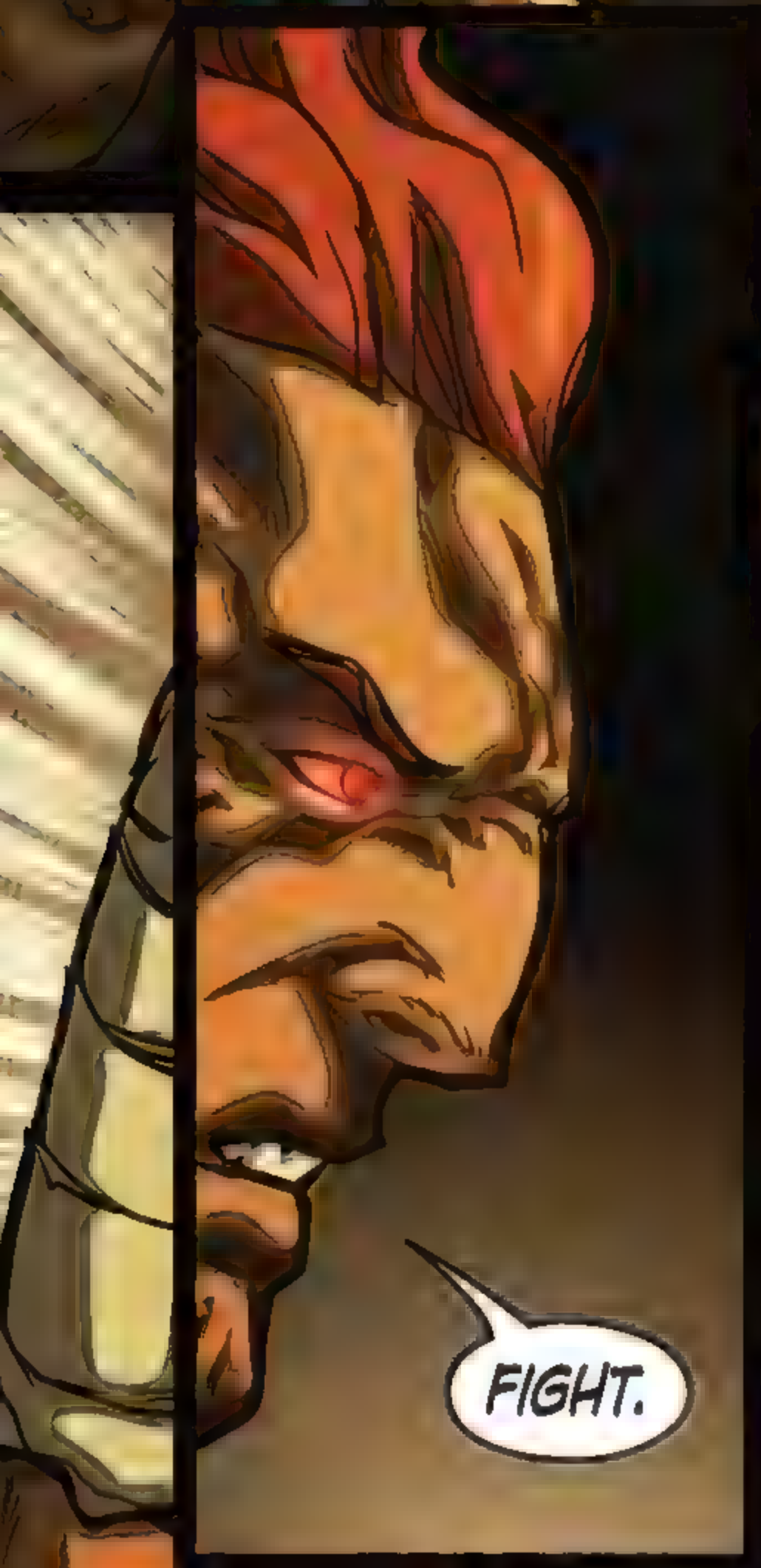
YOUR BROTHER. AKUMA. HE HAS RETURNED...



"...AND HAS COME  
TO AN AWAKENING  
OF HIS OWN."











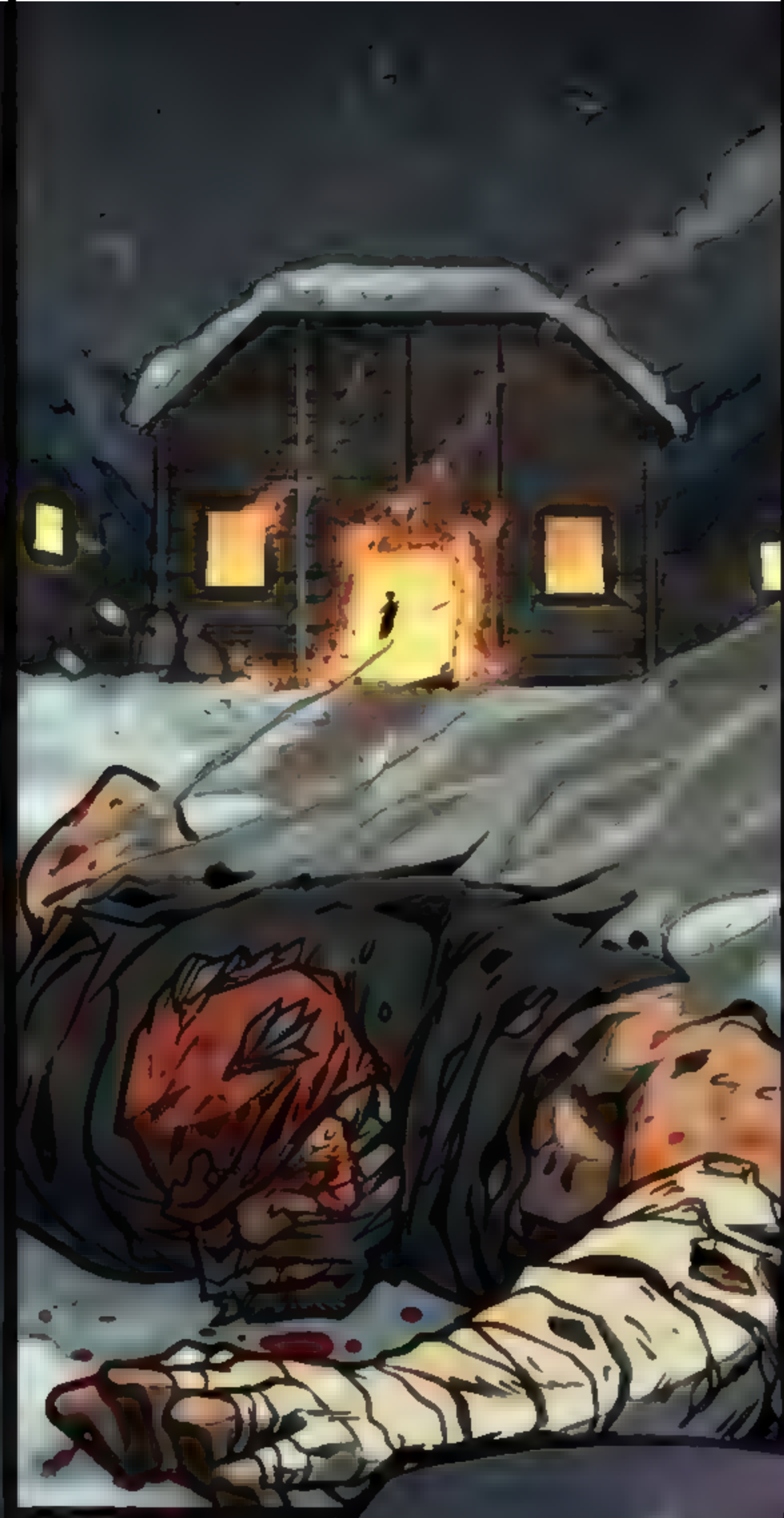
WHAM

SHUNK

BRA-KOW

SHOOM





HAAAAH!!



THOOOOOOO





YOU  
KILLED MY  
FATHER...

...NOW  
I AM HERE TO  
KILL YOU.



...HEEHAHA  
≡COUGH≡  
HAHAHA...

...YOUR  
FIGHTING STYLE...  
ANSATSUKEN...  
≡COUGH COUGH≡  
G-GOUTETSU HAS  
TAUGHT YOU W-WELL...  
HAHAHA...

I TOO  
WAS A STUDENT  
OF HIS DID YOU  
KNOW THAT? HOW...  
≡COUGH≡  
...H-HOW COULD  
YOU?



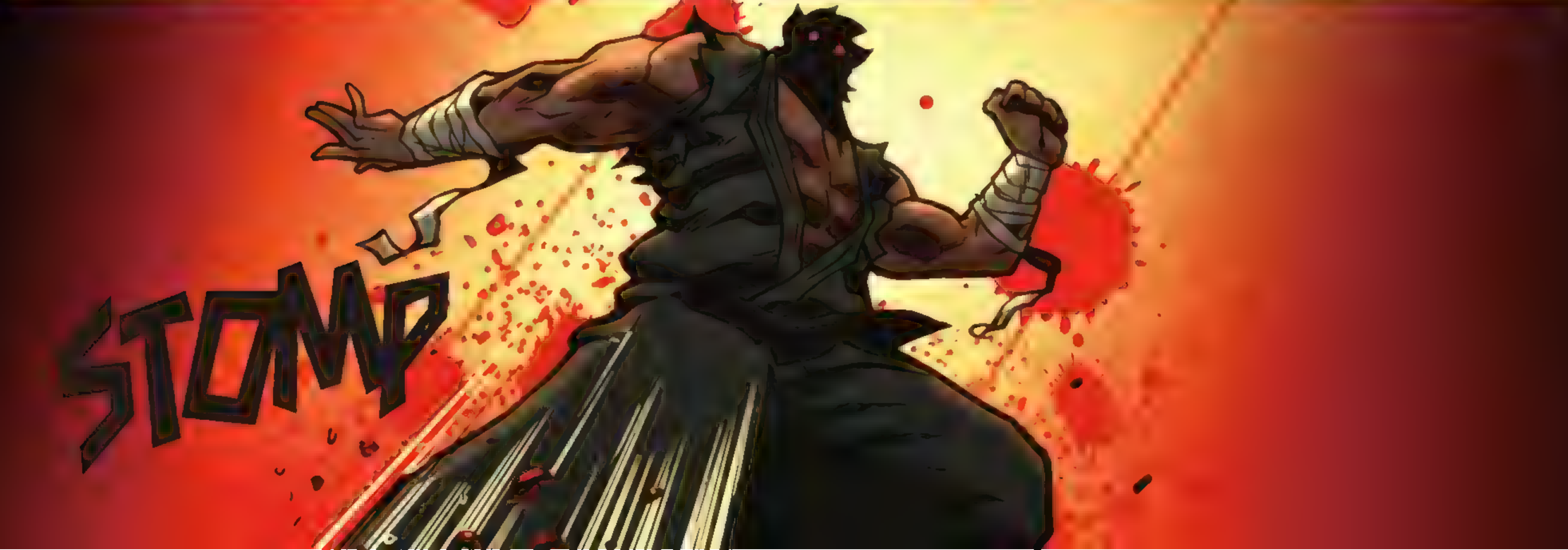
...HAS HE...  
HAHAHA... STARVED  
YOU IN THE MOUNTAINS  
YET? SENT ≡COUGH≡  
HIS ERRAND BOY TO  
TEST YOU?

DO YOU WANT  
TO KNOW WHAT  
MY TEST W-WAS?  
DO YOU?



HAHAHA  
AAHAHAHA!  
HE ≡COUGH  
COUGH≡ HE  
TOLD ME WHERE  
TO FIND YOUR  
FATHER!

HAHAHA  
HAAAAHA  
HAHA!



STOMP



# CHAPTER SIX: DEMON ARMAGEDDON



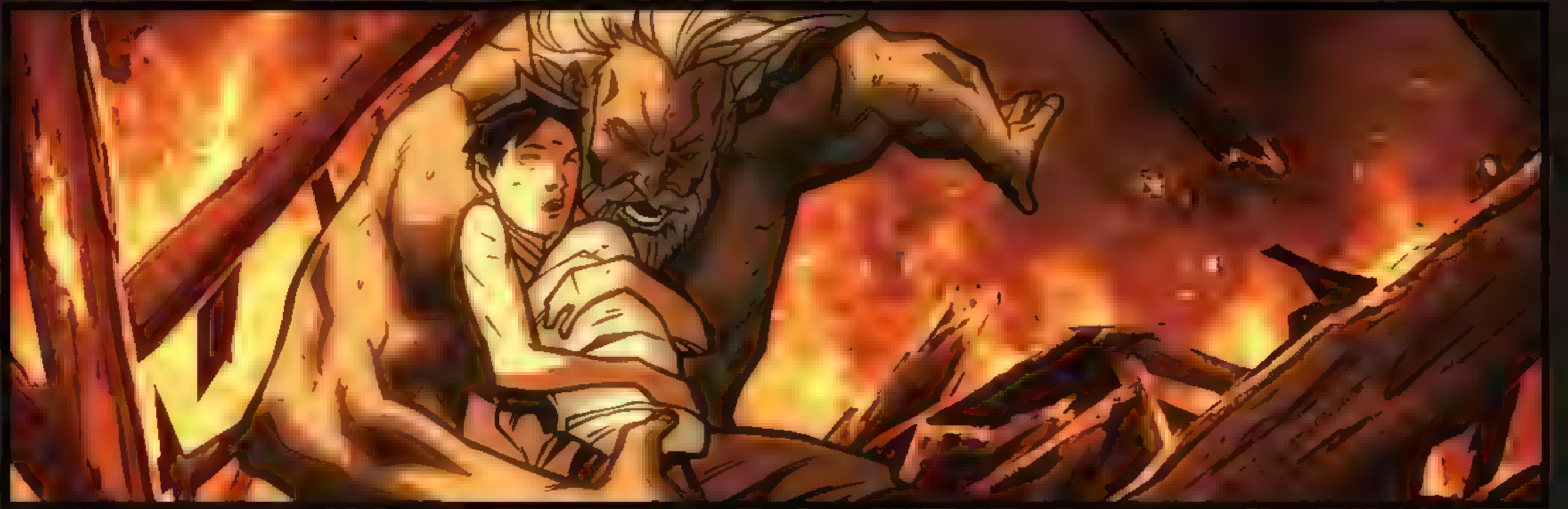




HELP!!







...THE...  
THE DEVIL  
CAME...

I KNOW...  
BUT HE IS GONE  
NOW.

...THE BOY...  
YOU MUST TAKE  
HIM... HIS FAMILY IS  
DEAD... HE WILL  
HAVE NO ONE...

THERE  
IS NO NEED.  
HE WILL HAVE  
YOU.

...N-NO... HE...  
HE WON'T... UHHH...  
PLEASE...



...PROTECT  
MIM.



"ANSATSUKEN, MY PUPILS, IS LITTLE MORE THAN THE EXPRESSION OF ENERGY AND, AS SUCH, ASSUMES MANY FORMS."

"ITS ARSENAL IS BUT A MERE PAINT BRUSH, SUBJECT TO THE WHIM OF THE ARTIST WHO WIELDS IT."

THERE WILL BE THOSE WHO STRIKE AGGRESSIVELY... VIOLENTLY, RECOGNIZING THE PURITY OF ITS KILLING EFFICIENCY.

OTHERS WILL CHOOSE--



LEAVE.







THE  
DARK HADO  
EMANATES FROM  
YOU AKUMA.  
IT CONSUMES  
YOU.



I AM YOUR  
PRODUCT. ARE YOU  
SATISFIED?



HOW QUICKLY YOU  
FORGET WHAT IT WAS  
YOU TOLD ME WHEN YOU  
FIRST BEGAN YOUR  
TRAINING.

YOU ARE  
WHAT YOU ARE  
BECAUSE YOU  
HAVE MADE  
IT SO.



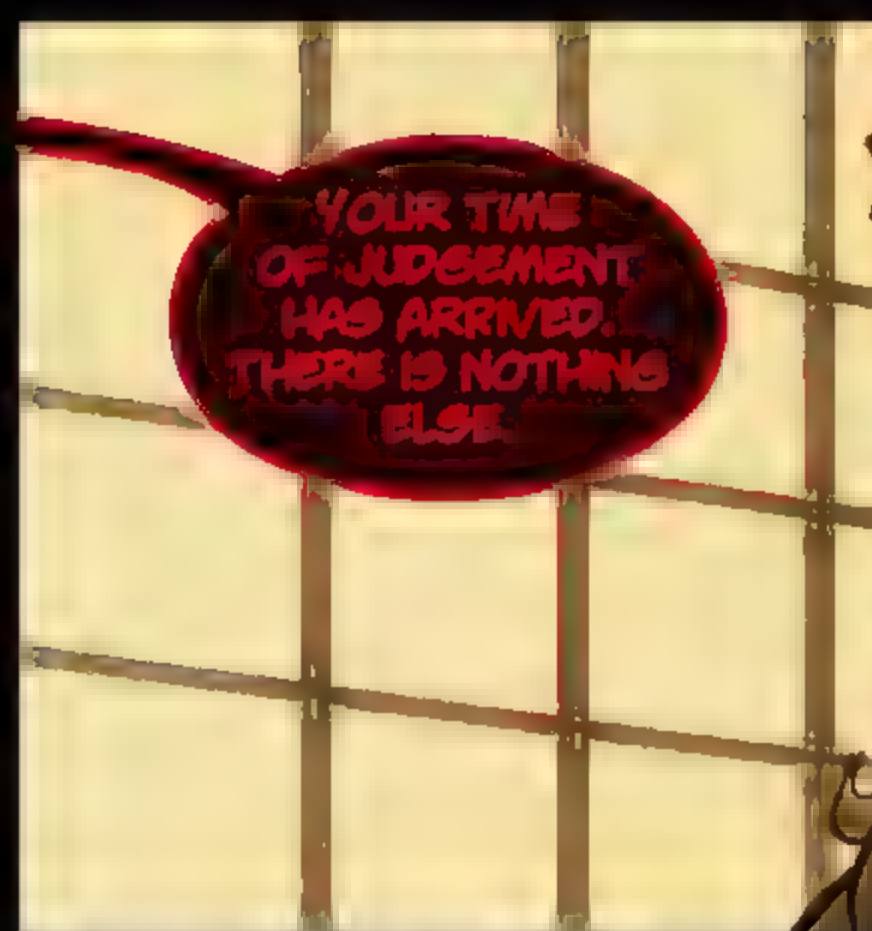
WHAT YOU FAIL TO SEE IS THAT  
THE PATH YOU ARE CHOOSING  
IS AN ENDLESS AND LONELY  
ONE.

WE CAN ALL  
BE SEDUCED BY  
DARKNESS  
AKUMA. BUT I  
IMPLORE YOU  
SON...

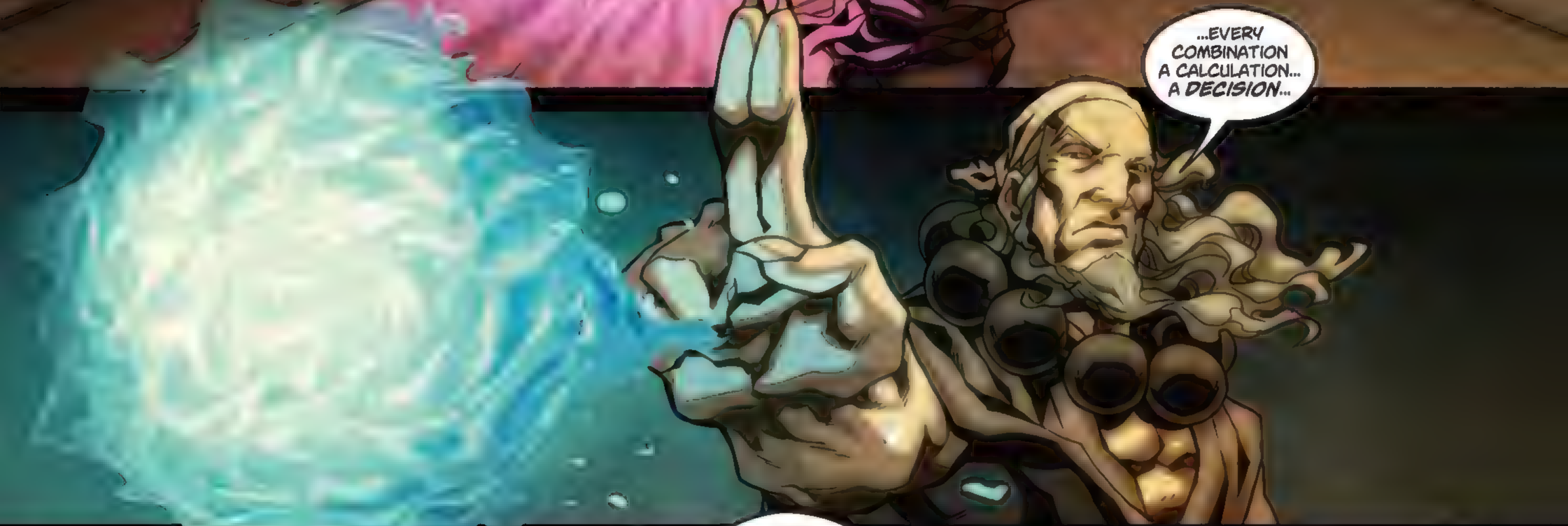


...ABANDON  
IT AS YOUR  
FATHER DID,  
BEFORE IT IS  
TOO LATE.

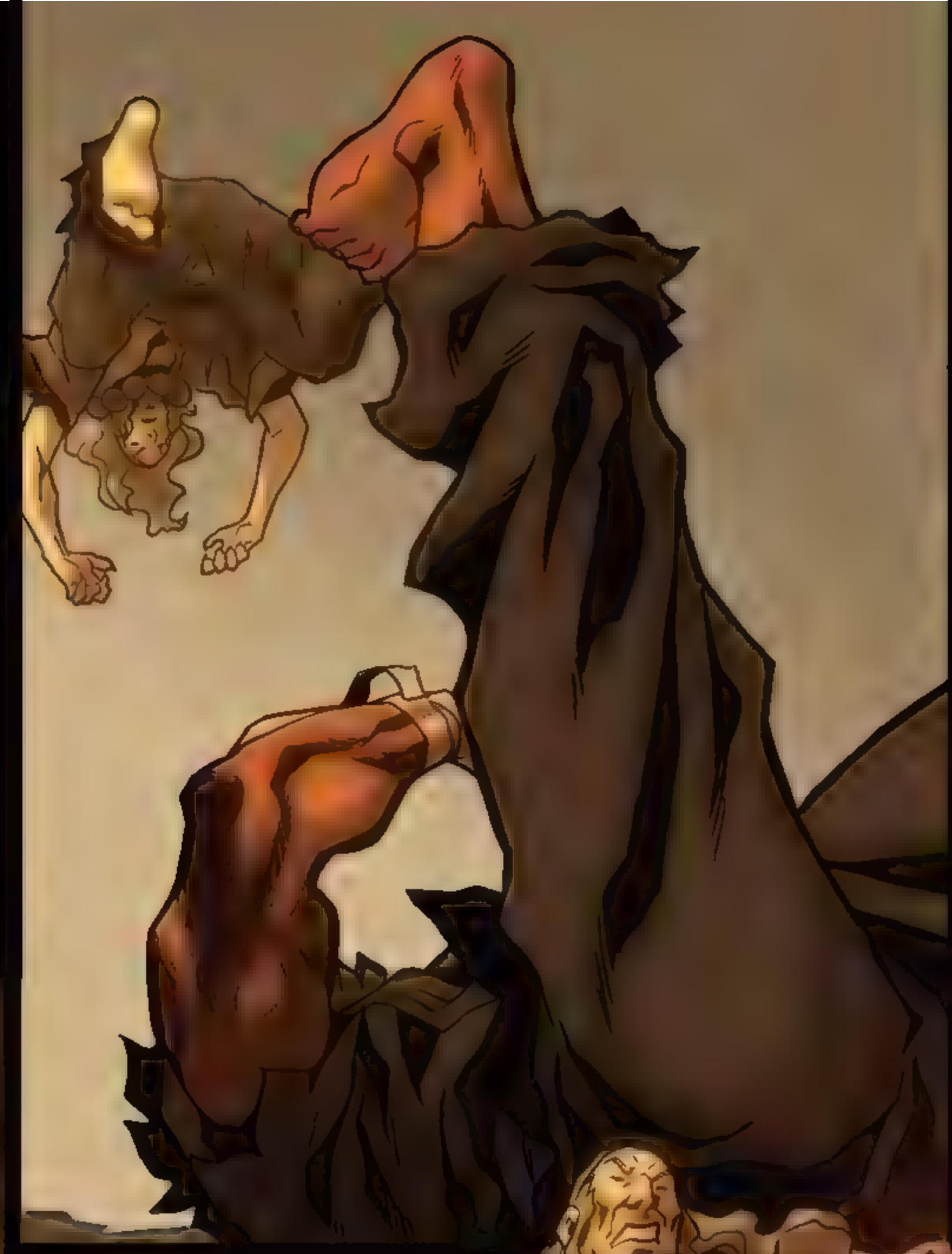












I CANNOT  
STOP THIS  
FIGHT...



FWOOSH

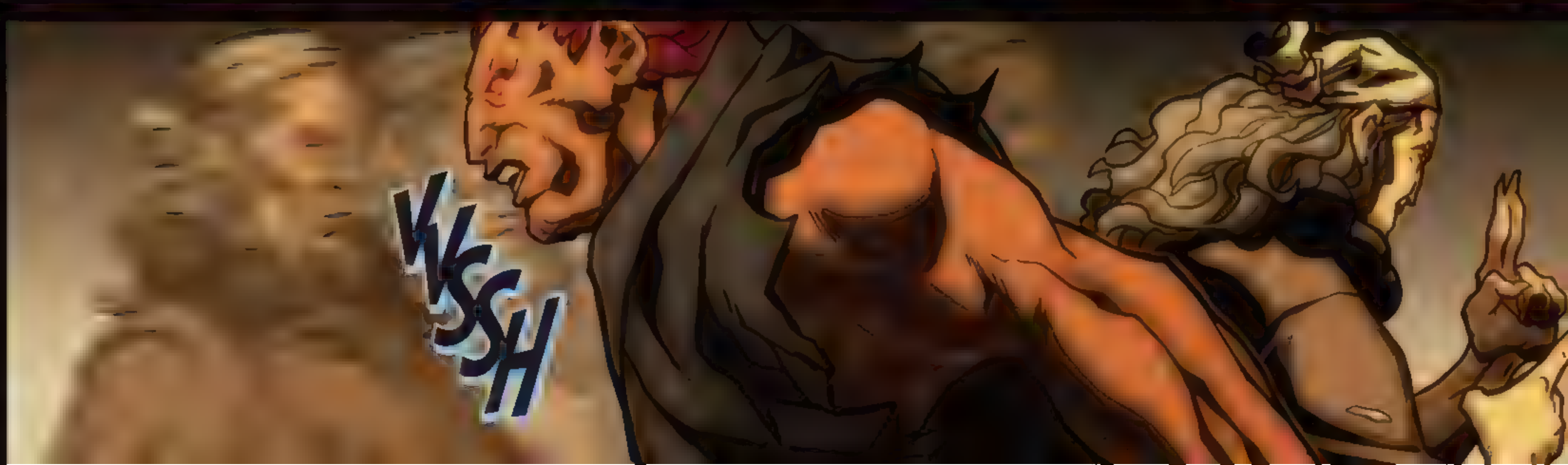


...I CAN  
ONLY HOPE  
THAT YOU KNOW  
WHAT IT IS YOU  
WANT FROM  
IT...



...AND REALIZE  
THAT IT MIGHT NOT  
BE EXACTLY WHAT  
YOU RECEIVE.







SO I ASK  
YOU ONE LAST  
TIME AKUMA...

WHAT IS  
IT THAT YOU  
WANT?

I WANT  
YOU TO PREPARE  
FOR DEATH.

FWOK

VOOSH

VWOO  
VWOO  
VWOO













# CHAPTER SEVEN: TWO BROTHERS

Ten years later.



"COME, RYU. IT IS TIME TO OPEN YOUR EYES. THERE IS MUCH WORK TO BE DONE. MUCH MORE TRAINING TO COMPLETE."

"I WAS NOT SLEEPING MASTER GOUKEN. I TRICKED YOU. YOU ONLY THOUGHT I WAS DREAMING BUT I WAS WAITING FOR YOU."



"AH. VERY GOOD SON. THEN YOU ARE READY. EACH NEW DAY REWARDS THOSE WHO ARE READY. THE SUN IS CALLING AND THERE IS MUCH I WANT TO TEACH YOU. SO MUCH I WANT YOU TO TEACH ME."

"WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW MASTER?"

"WE TRAIN TO FIGHT, HOWEVER FIGHTING IS NOTHING BUT AN EXPRESSION... THE STATEMENT ONE OFFERS THE WORLD. THE CHALLENGE RYU, IS DETERMINING THE STATEMENT YOU WISH TO MAKE. WHAT I WANT TO KNOW IS WHAT YOU WISH TO SAY."







RETSU...  
I AM FILLED WITH  
PEACE KNOWING  
YOU ARE SAFELY  
RETURNED.



WHEN YOU  
LEFT I HARDLY  
EXPECTED IT WOULD  
BE FOR THREE  
MONTHS.

NOR DID  
I. THE JOURNEY  
WAS MORE  
ARDUOUS THAN I  
ANTICIPATED.



I AM  
GLAD YOU'RE  
HOME.



I AM GLAD TO BE HOME.  
I DID NOT EXPECT TO MISS  
THE BOY SO MUCH. ~~THE~~  
I MUST BE GETTING SOFT  
IN MY OLD AGE.



HOW HAS HE BEEN?  
HIS DEVELOPMENT?

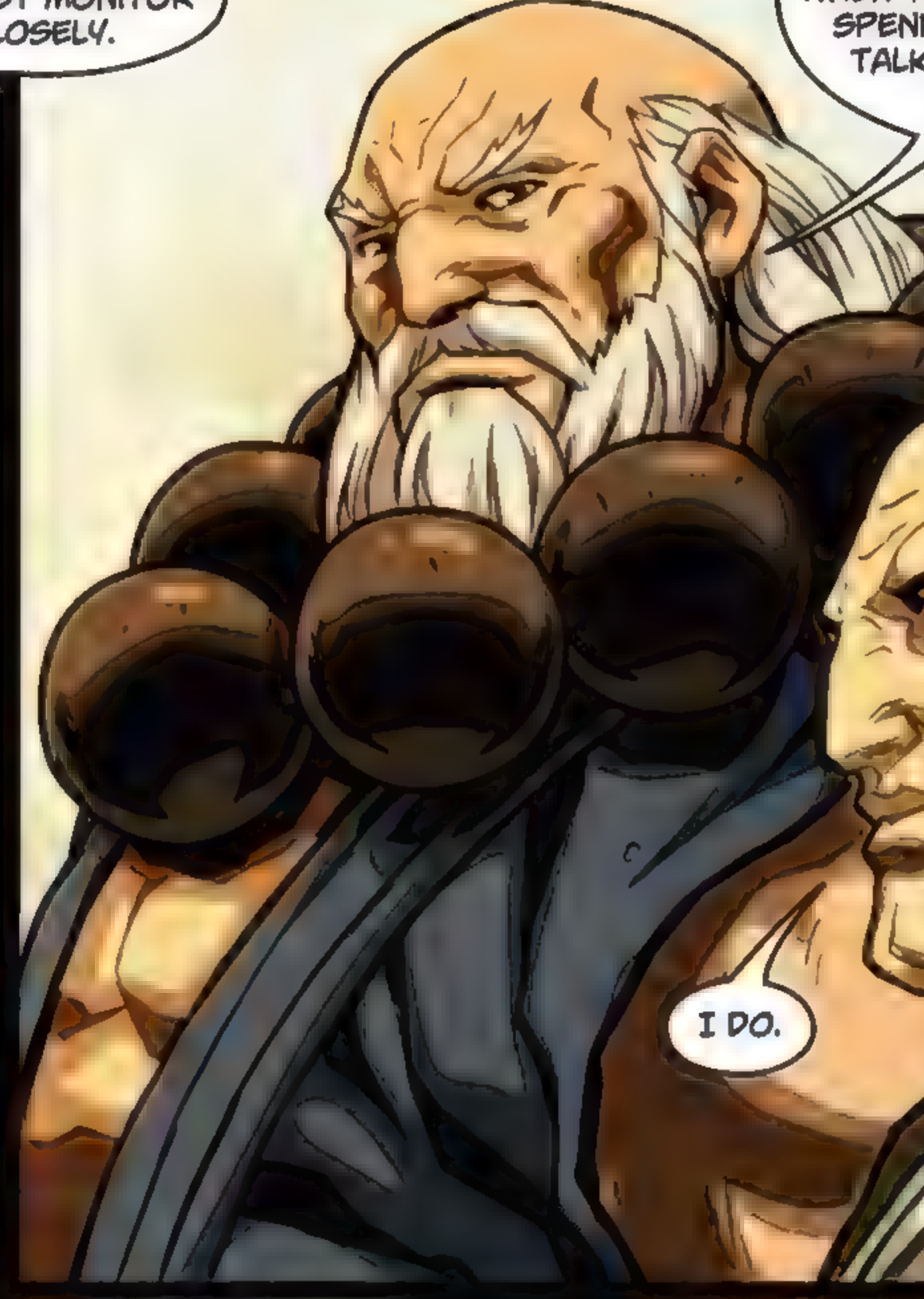


HE HAS EXCELLED IN HIS PHYSICAL TRAINING.  
HE IS STRONG-WILLED. DETERMINED TO LEARN.  
NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE TO EXHAUST.

BUT I FEEL  
HE HAS YET TO ADDRESS  
THE LOSS OF HIS FAMILY. THERE  
IS A VOID IN HIM. AND WITH THAT  
VOID A FEAR. HE BECOMES  
QUICKLY ATTACHED TO THOSE  
WHO CARE FOR HIM AND THEN  
WORRIES CONSTANTLY THAT  
THEY WILL LEAVE.



IT IS THAT VOID  
WE MUST MONITOR  
CLOSELY.



HE ASKED ABOUT YOU RELENTLESSLY  
WHEN YOU WERE GONE. HE'LL WANT TO  
SPEND TIME WITH YOU. WE SHOULD  
TALK NOW BEFORE HE RETURNS.  
YOU MUST HAVE MUCH  
TO TELL.

I DO.



BUT I STRUGGLE WITH HOW  
MUCH TRUTH YOU NEED  
TO KNOW.

WE AGREED  
WHEN I LEFT I  
WAS TO FIND YOUR  
BROTHER NO  
MATTER THE  
MEANS.



...I WARN  
YOU THAT PERHAPS  
IT IS BEST TO LET HIM  
GO. HOLD ON TO WHAT  
MEMORIES YOU HAVE.  
LET THOSE BE YOUR  
VISION OF HIM.



MY BROTHER  
IS NOT DEAD RETSU.  
I CANNOT JUST THINK  
OF HIM AS SOME  
GHOST FROM  
THE PAST.

~~SIGH~~  
VERY WELL.





"TRYING TO LOCATE YOUR BROTHER WAS NO EASY TASK. TOKYO HAS NO PUBLIC RECORD OF HIS EXISTENCE. OR YOURS FOR THAT MATTER. YOUR FATHER WAS A CAREFUL MAN. ACCORDING TO JAPAN, NEITHER OF YOU WERE EVER BORN."

"THIS MADE TRACKING HIS RESIDENCY NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE. NO MAILING ADDRESS IN HIS NAME. NO LICENSES OF ANY KIND."



"I BEGAN TO TRAVEL THE DISTRICTS, FROM DOJO TO DOJO, ASSUMING AKUMA WOULD HAVE DONE THE SAME. HIS REPUTATION HAS GROWN TO SUCH PROPORTIONS, I REASONED, SURELY HE WILL HAVE BEEN NOTICED SOMEWHERE."



"AND YET IN THE FIRST VILLAGES I VISITED NOT A SINGLE SENSEI WOULD ADMIT TO HAVING SEEN OR EVEN HEARD OF HIM."

...ADMIT?

YES. THE MORE I QUESTIONED, THE MORE PECULIAR BECAME THE RESPONSES. IT WAS AS THOUGH WORD OF MY CURIOSITY WAS SPREADING... LIKE I HAD UNKNOWINGLY TAPPED INTO A SECRET.

I BEGAN TO PRESS THE MATTER, FOCUSING ON THE YOUNGER FIGHTERS. MANY OF THEM WERE SCARED AT THE MENTION OF HIS NAME... BUT MANY ALSO SEEMED EXCITED TO TALK. LIKE THERE WAS A DANGER IN BREAKING THEIR SILENCE THEY COULD NOT RESIST.

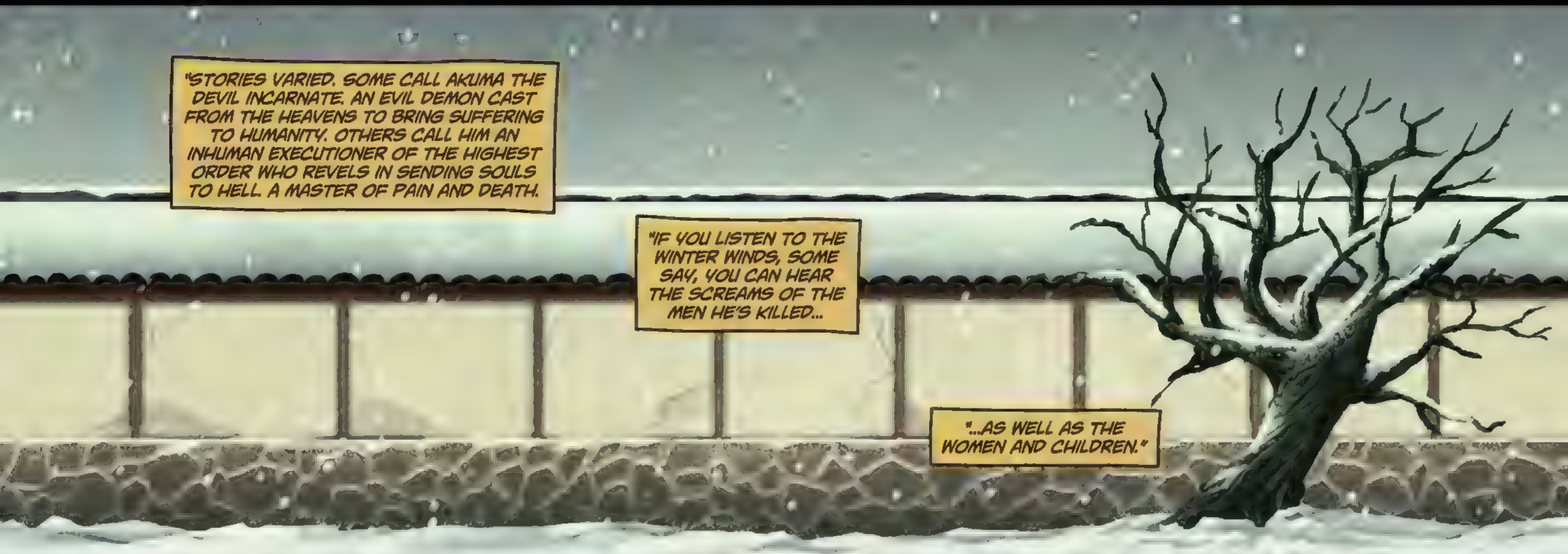
AND?



"STORIES VARIED. SOME CALL AKUMA THE DEVIL INCARNATE. AN EVIL DEMON CAST FROM THE HEAVENS TO BRING SUFFERING TO HUMANITY. OTHERS CALL HIM AN INHUMAN EXECUTIONER OF THE HIGHEST ORDER WHO REVELS IN SENDING SOULS TO HELL. A MASTER OF PAIN AND DEATH."

"IF YOU LISTEN TO THE WINTER WINDS, SOME SAY, YOU CAN HEAR THE SCREAMS OF THE MEN HE'S KILLED..."

"...AS WELL AS THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN."



NO. I REFUSE TO BELIEVE IT.




AS DO I. THIS IS THE STUFF OF FOLKLORE.



BUT GOUKEN, THERE ARE CERTAIN DETAILS OF HIS STORY THAT REMAIN THE SAME FROM VILLAGE TO VILLAGE...







"AKUMA IS SAID TO RESIDE IN A HOME BUILT ATOP THE STEEPEST PEAK OUTSIDE THE EASTERN FALLS. HE LIVES ALONE, THEY SAY, AND NEVER LEAVES. THE TREK TO REACH HIM NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE.

"THE FIRST TO FIND HIM WAS AN ILLUSTRIOUS FIGHTER FROM THAILAND. NEARING THE TWILIGHT OF HIS LIFE, HE OVERCAME THE TREACHEROUS TERRAIN WITH THE HELP OF TWO GUIDES, NEITHER OF WHOM SURVIVED.

"ARRIVING WITH OFFERINGS OF FOOD, TEXTILES AND GOLD, THE THAI FIGHTER ASKED AKUMA FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO FIGHT. TO MEASURE HIMSELF AGAINST THE MAN HE HEARD IS THE BEST.

HIS OFFER WAS MET.

"THE FIGHTER ADMITS TO BEING BEATEN WITHIN A FEW STROKES OF DEATH... ONLY TO BE RETURNED TO HEALTH IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOWED. ONCE WELL, HE WAS SENT AWAY, GOLD IN HAND. ORDERED BY AKUMA TO TELL ALL FIGHTERS OF HIS CHALLENGE... THAT HE AWAITS THE WORLD'S BEST IN HOPE OF ONE DAY FINDING A WORTHY OPPONENT.

"FOOD... CLOTHING... HE LIVES ONLY OFF THE OFFERINGS GIVEN TO HIM. WHEN A FIGHTER ARRIVES, HE MUST SPEND THE FIRST THREE DAYS HELPING AKUMA ADD TO A MASSIVE STONE WALL THAT SURROUNDS HIS HOME. IF, AFTER THIS, THE FIGHTER PERSISTS, AKUMA ACCEPTS HIS CHALLENGE.

"THERE IS NOT A SINGLE FIGHTER WHO DARES CLAIM TO HAVE DEFEATED HIM. SOME, THEY SAY, HAVE NEVER RETURNED.



"THOSE THAT HAVE TELL A SIMILAR  
STORY. THAT OF A DARKENED SOUL.

"THAT OF A SUPREME FIGHTER  
WHO, FOR REASONS BEYOND  
COMPREHENSION, SPENDS MUCH OF  
THE FIGHT, WITHOUT RETALIATION,  
ABSORBING THE VIOLENT ONSLAUGHT  
OF HIS OPPONENT. ONLY WHEN  
BLOODIED AND BATTERED, ON THE  
BRINK OF DEFEAT... ONLY THEN DOES  
HE UNLEASH HIS OWN ASSAULT.

"HE IS FAR GONE  
GOUKEN. PERHAPS IT IS  
TIME YOU LET HIM GO...

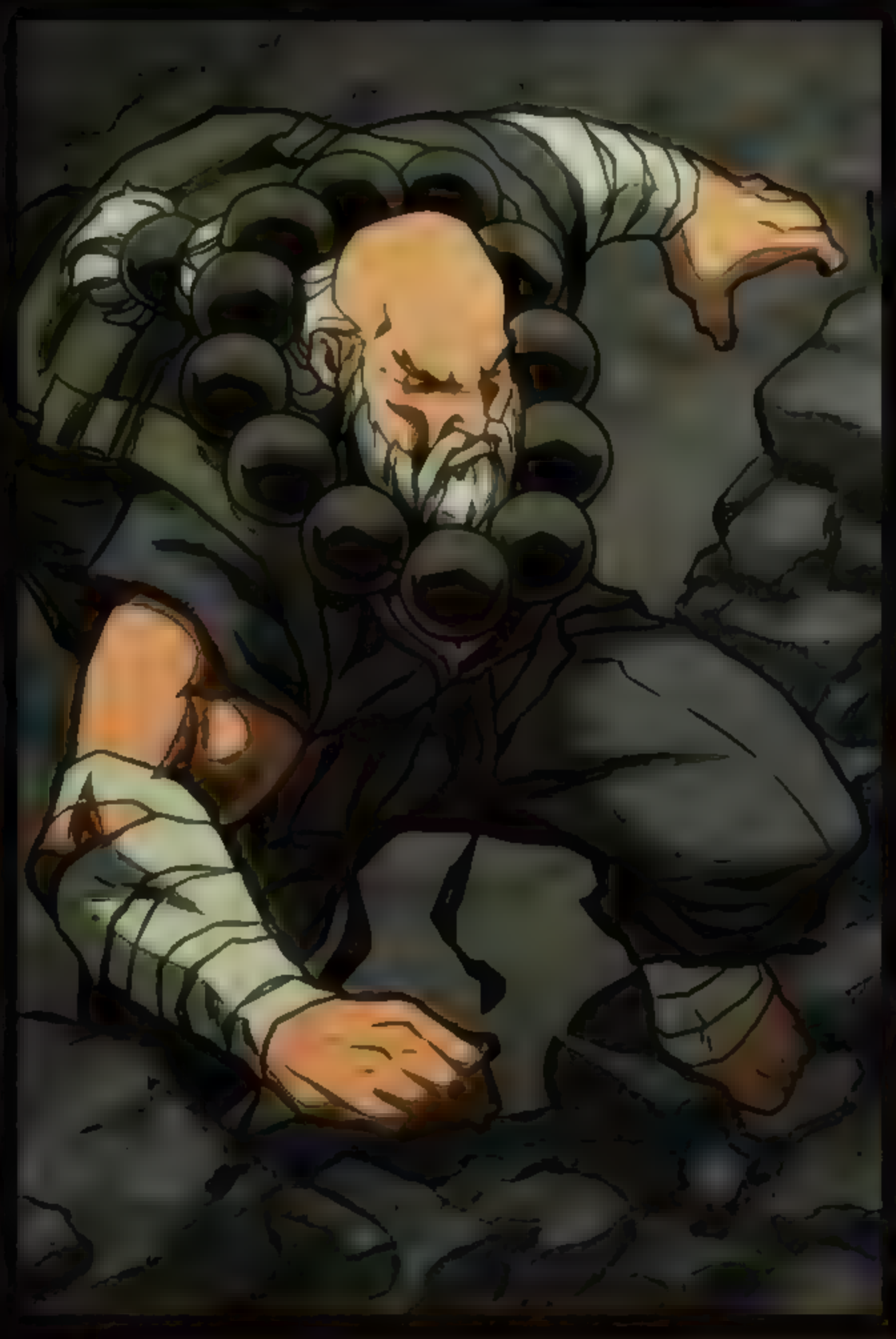
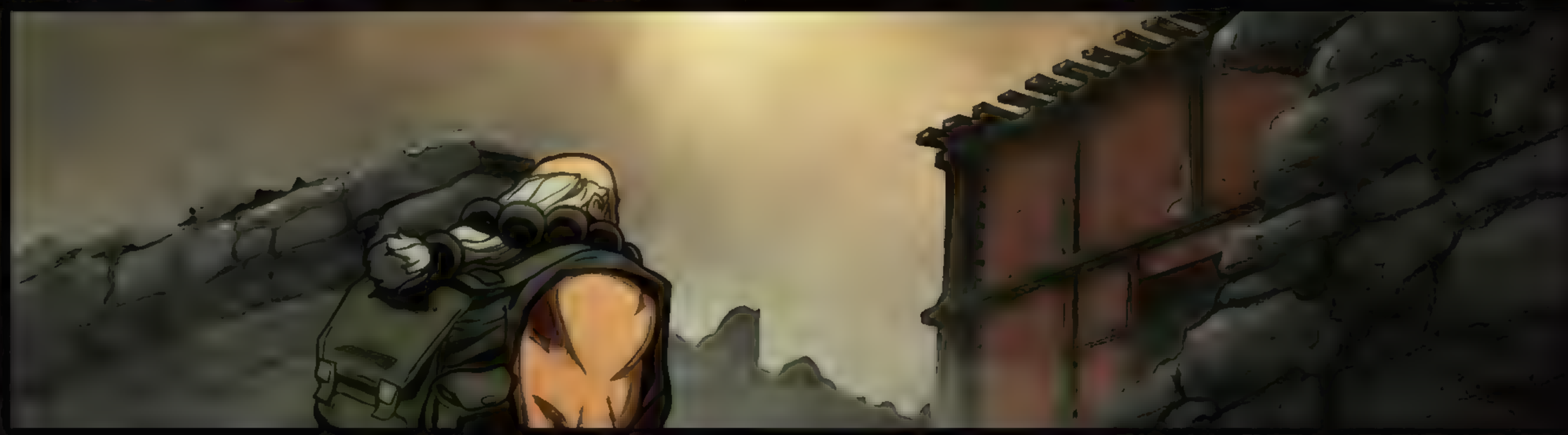
"...HE HAS BECOME NOTHING  
MORE THAN A LONELY MAN...

"...ON AN  
ISOLATED HILL...





"...SURROUNDED BY A WALL  
OF HIS OWN CREATION."







MANY FIGHTERS SPOKE OF YOUR TRAINING WITH MASTER GOUTETSU.

I'D HOPED IT WAS TRUE. I SEE NOW THAT IT IS.

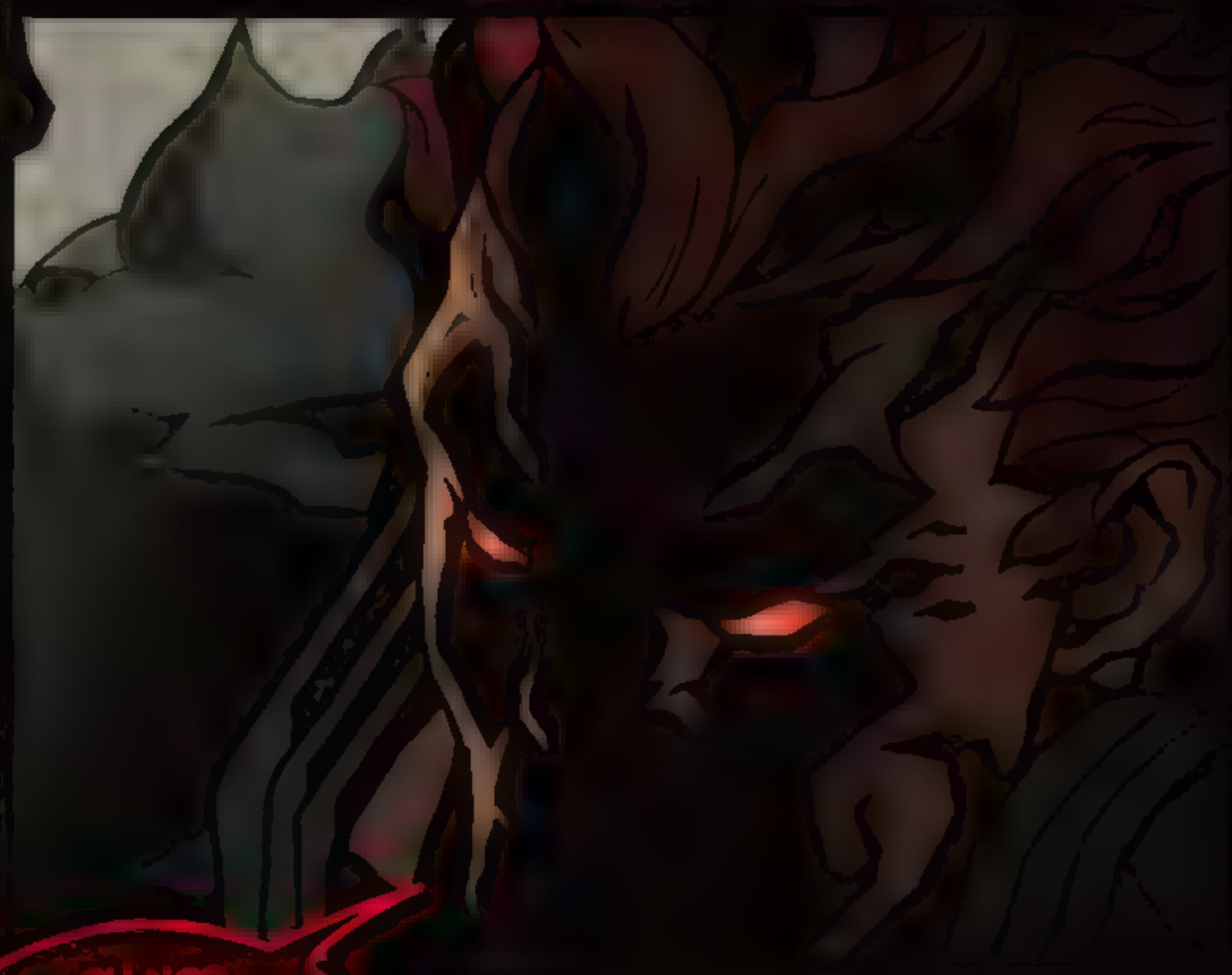
FOR SO LONG I WISHED YOU'D COME. I HARDLY KNOW WHAT TO SAY NOW THAT YOU'RE HERE.



MY OFFERING.



BUT I AM NOT HERE TO FIGHT, AKUMA.



OH NO? WHAT THEN BIG BROTHER? ALL THIS WAY JUST TO SAY HELLO?



I WANT TO CONVINCE YOU TO COME HOME. YOUR SUFFERING HAS GONE ON LONG ENOUGH.



MY SUFFERING?



I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT YOU ARE GOING THROUGH AKUMA. I KNOW THE PATH YOU ARE WALKING. WHEN MOTHER DIED I FELT THE SAME. IT WAS EASIER TO BE ANGRY THAN IT WAS TO BE SAD. EASIER TO FIGHT THAN IT WAS TO SHED TEARS.

I LOOKED TO ANSATSUKEN TO FIND POWER. AND WITH THAT POWER, **CONTROL**. ENOUGH CONTROL TO NEVER FEEL PAIN... OR SADNESS AGAIN.

BUT THAT LEVEL OF CONTROL IS IMPOSSIBLE.

COME HOME, AKUMA.

DON'T WALK THIS PATH ALONE. IT LEADS NOWHERE.

HA...HA...HA...

STILL TRYING TO PROTECT EVERYONE. I LOVE IT.

COME HOME? THIS IS MY HOME.

AND IN MY HOME THERE ARE RULES. I CANNOT LET YOU LEAVE WITHOUT A FIGHT.

COME ON, GOUKEN. THESE FIGHTERS ARE LAMBS. THEY LIVE TO BE SLAUGHTERED. GIVE ME A FIGHT TO REMEMBER.

I THOUGHT THAT YOU SEEING ME WOULD CHANGE THINGS. BUT I SEE I'VE WASTED MY TIME. RETSU WAS RIGHT. YOU ARE TOO FAR GONE.

THERE ARE FOOD, CLOTHES AND BLANKETS IN THE BAG. I WISH YOU WELL, AKUMA. AS I WOULD ANYONE. I DOUBT WE'LL SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN.

HEY GOUKEN.

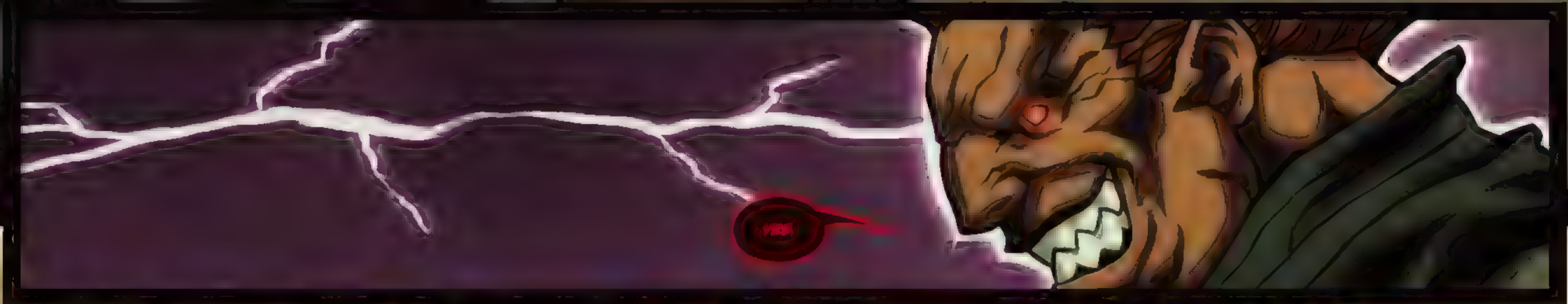
ONE LAST THING BEFORE YOU GO. MOTHER... I HEARD ABOUT HER DEATH YEARS AFTER. WHERE DID YOU BURY HER? I NEVER FOUND OUT.

AND WHAT WAS HARDER? LETTING HER GO?

OR LETTING GO OF THE THOUGHT...

THAT IF SHE WAS WITH ME, SHE MIGHT STILL BE ALIVE?





FWOOSH

THWACK





SHOOM



WOK



WHAT'S  
WRONG WITH  
YOU?!

YOU  
CHALLENGE  
ME AND THEN  
REFUSE TO  
FIGHT?!



OR MAYBE  
YOU'RE RUNNING  
FROM THIS  
FIGHT...

...LIKE YOU RAN  
FROM US...

...FROM  
MOTHER...



...EVEN WHEN  
IT WAS *YOU* SHE  
CALLED OUT FOR  
WITH HER LAST  
BREATH.





THUD

WHOOON

FWOOSH





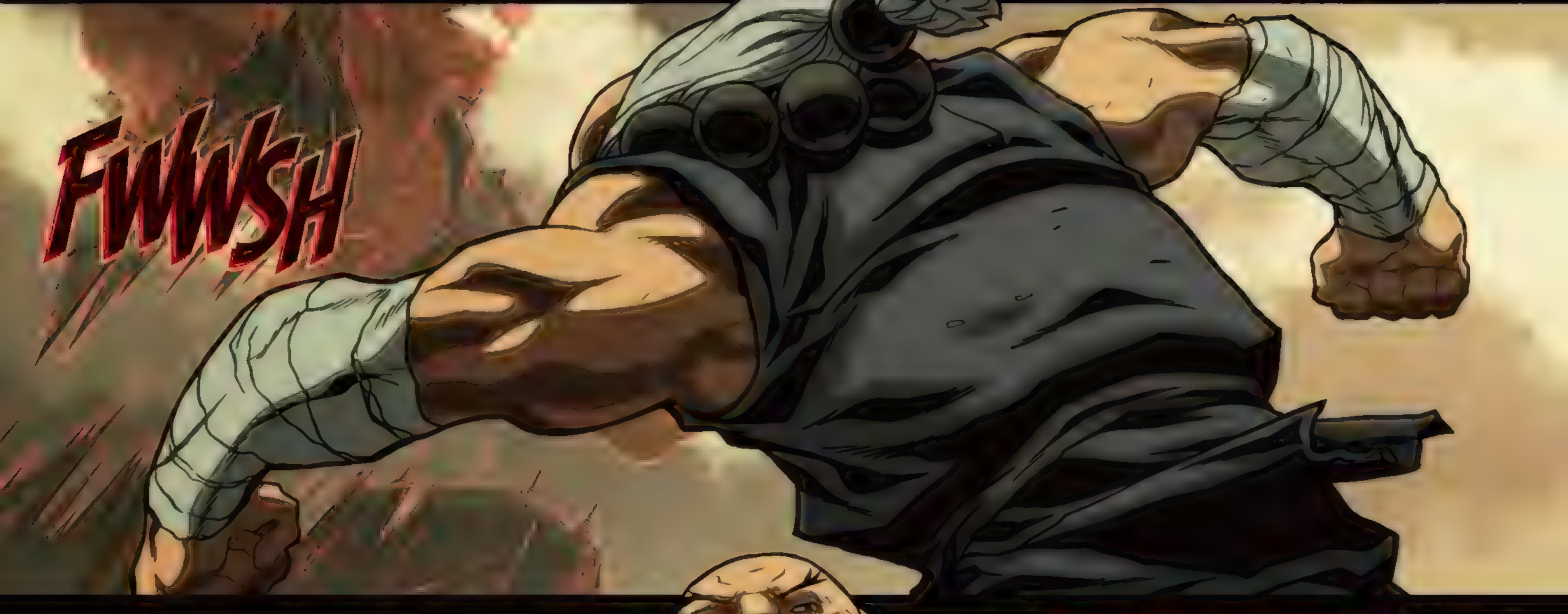
FWOO

SHOOK

SNATCH

WHUD

























AKUMA!



REACH OUT!



THE DROP IS TOO LONG!  
YOU WON'T SURVIVE!



WE ARE BUT SEEDS IN THE WIND...



"...WE FALL  
WHERE WE MAY."







BEFORE YOU CAN  
BEGIN YOUR TRAINING,  
AKUMA, I MUST ASK YOU  
A QUESTION I ASK ALL  
MY NEW PUPILS.

WHAT IS IT,  
MASTER?



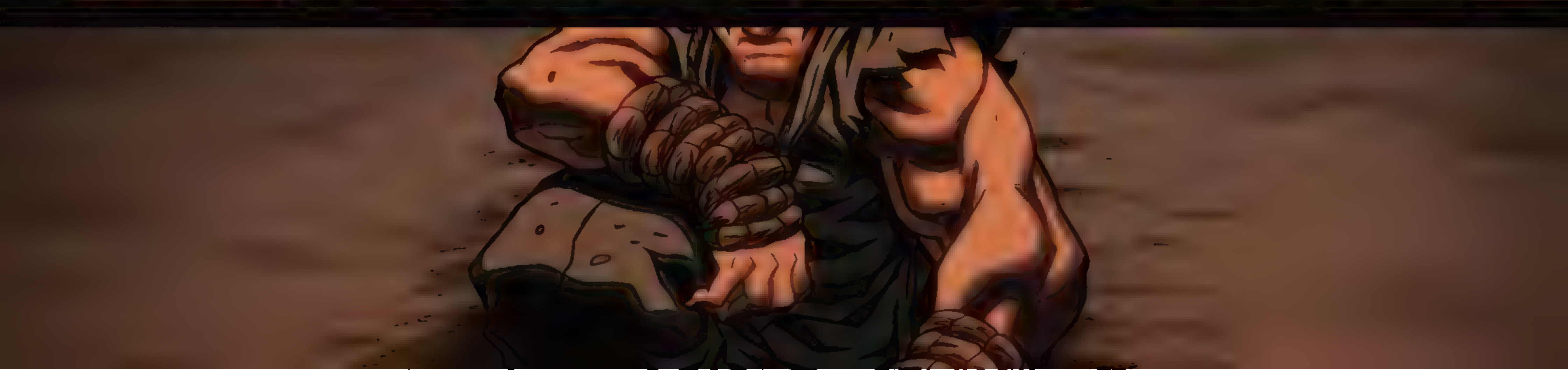
I NEED TO KNOW  
WHAT IT IS YOU HOPE  
TO TAKE FROM YOUR  
TIME HERE.



MY FATHER  
IS DEAD. MY MOTHER  
AND BROTHER GONE.  
MY OLD LIFE BURNED  
AWAY IN THE FIRE.



I WANT  
TO BECOME  
SOMEONE  
NEW...





"...I WANT TO  
FIND A PATH  
OF MY OWN."



THE BEGINNING...





COVER ART

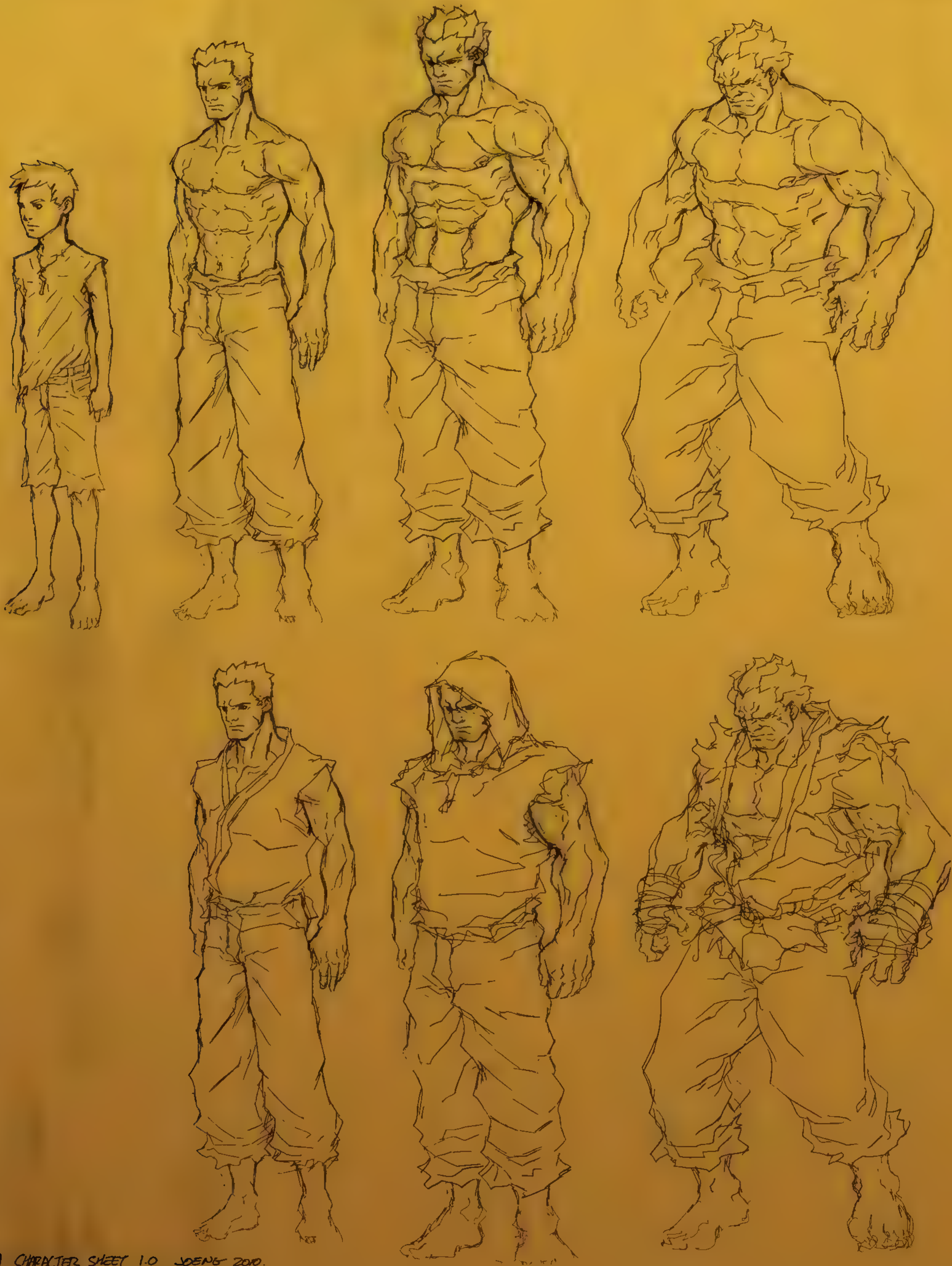
by Kiyomasa  
(GOSTA) (HUNTER) (ARASHI)



豪鬼

AKUMA

Since our story takes place over a long period of time, we needed to consider both Akuma and Gouken's appearances over the years. Throughout *Street Fighter Origins: Akuma*, our titular character gradually change from an average boy into the dark "Master of the Fist" we all love to fear.





# 剛拳

## GOUKEN

As the story progressed, we wanted to keep the brothers' exact ages a bit ambiguous. To this end, we decided that Gouken would have white hair even as a boy. This allowed us to bring him pretty close to his modern "old man" look of Street Fighter IV by the end of the graphic novel, even though he is probably only in his early 40s by that time.



# 牛鬼

## GYŪKI

While the true name of Akuma and Gouken's father is unrevealed, he is mentioned to have used at least two aliases.

His family knows him as "Yoshinori", an UDON shout-out to Street Fighter IV producer Yoshinori Ono.

In the martial arts world he is known as "Gyūki" (Ox Demon). We liked this name because of the similar sound and meaning to Akuma's original Japanese name "Gouki" (Great Demon).

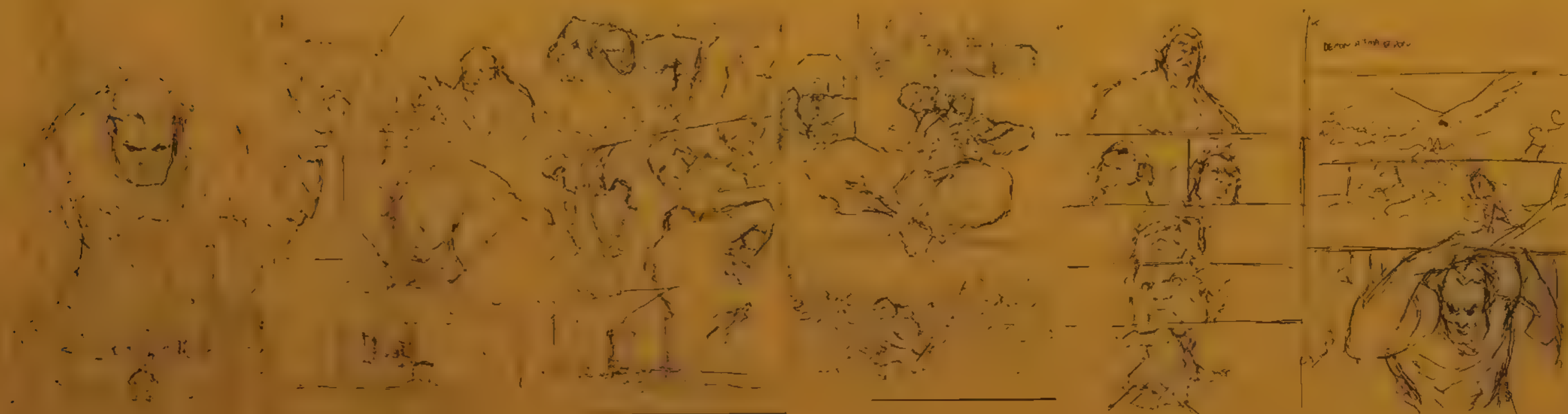
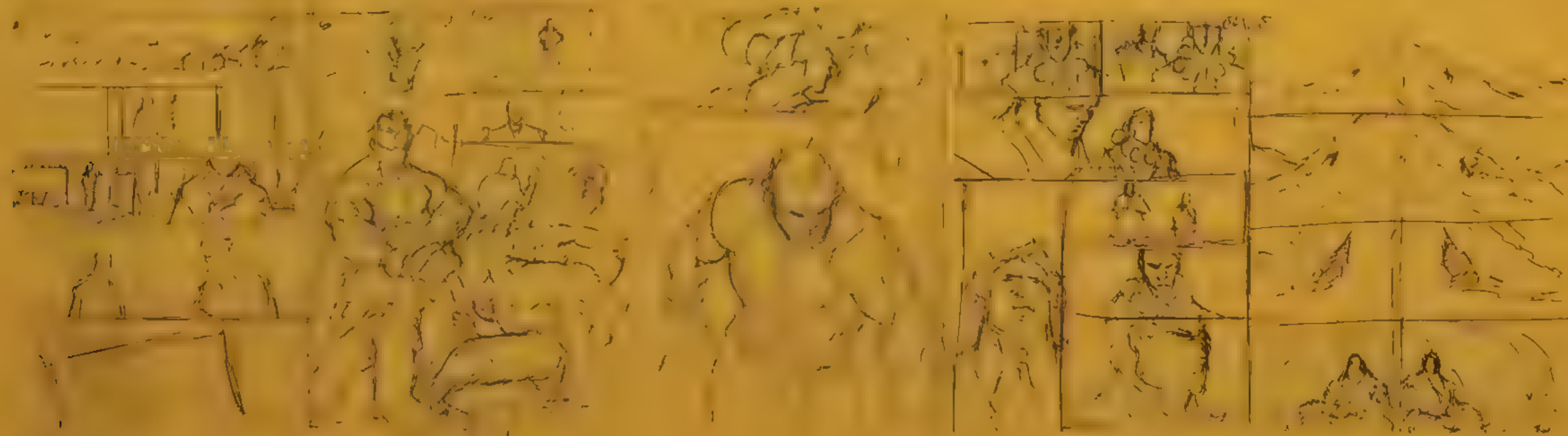


# 盜賊

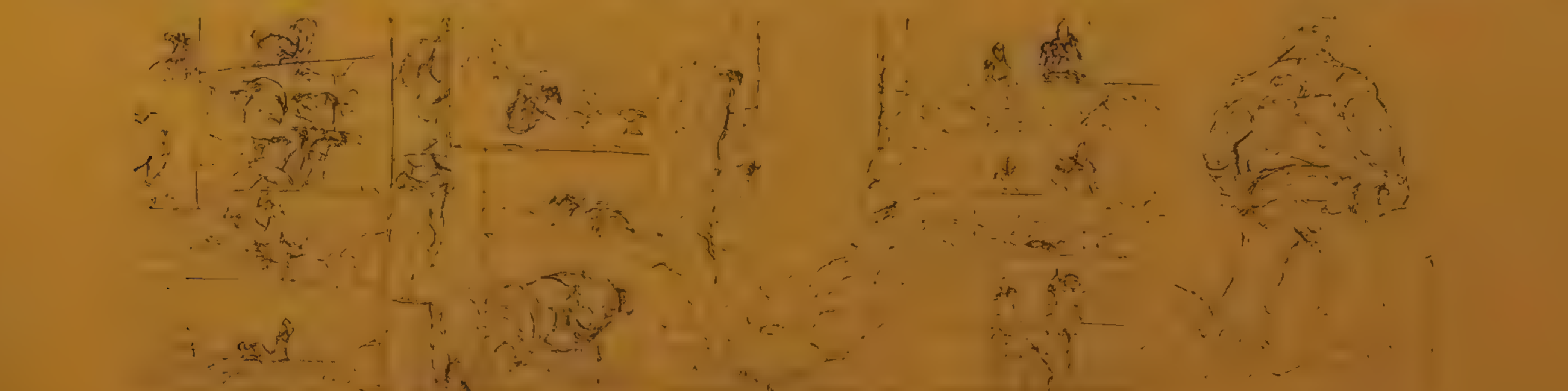
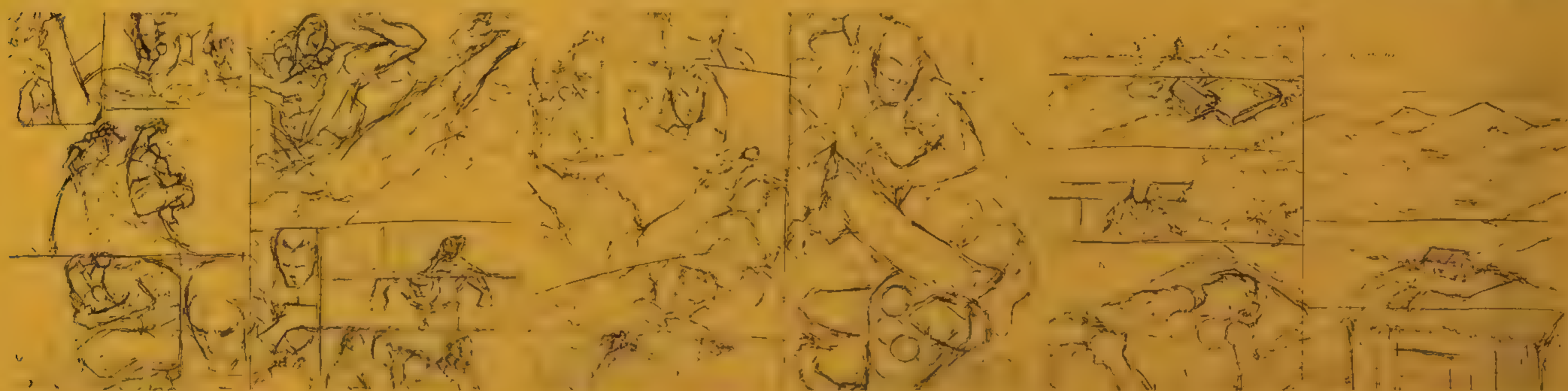
## BANDIT

A martial artist who wears a red bandana? That seems familiar, but it's probably just a coincidence... right?

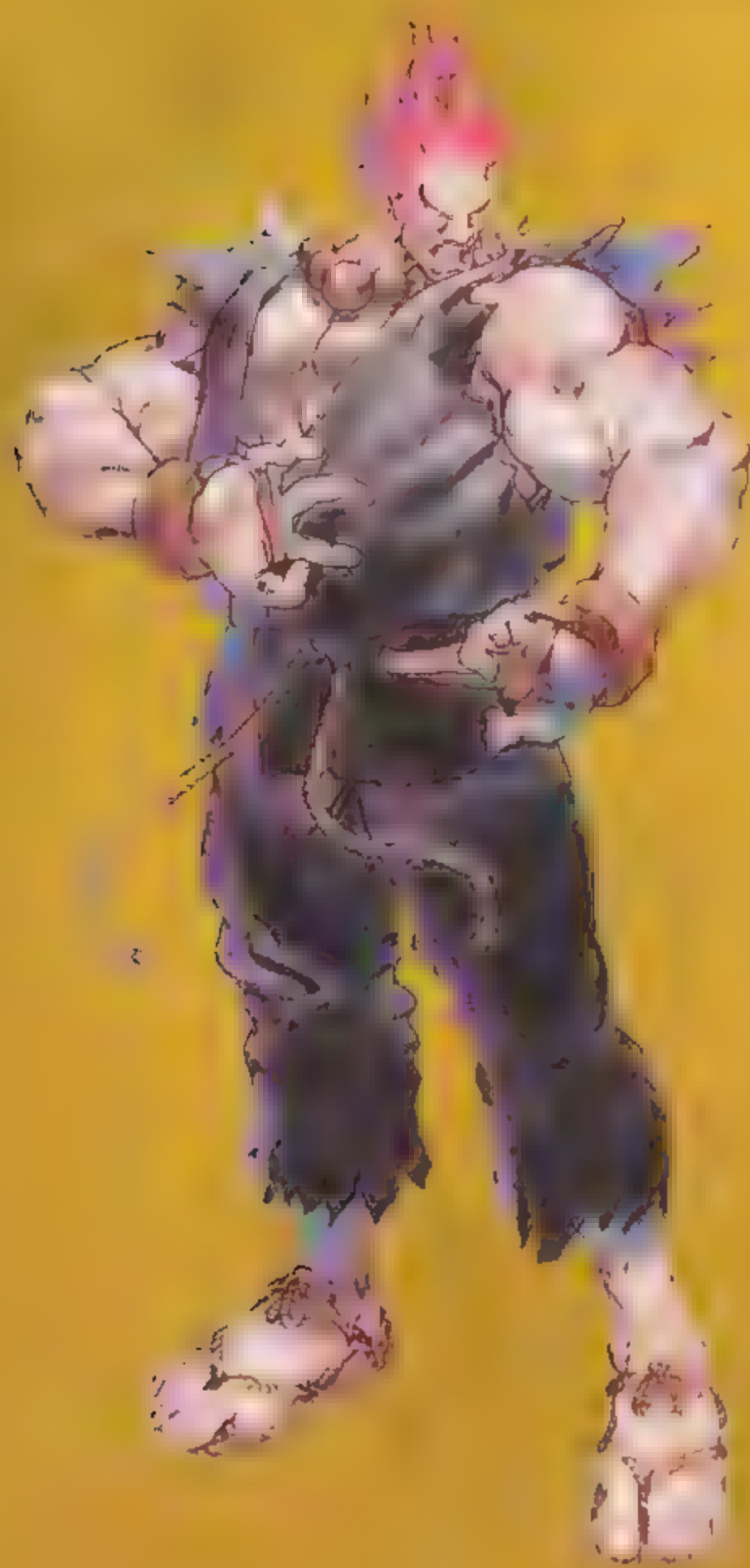












SUPER STREET  
FIGHTER II TURBO  
BENGUS



SUPER STREET  
FIGHTER II TURBO  
IKENO



STREET FIGHTER  
ALPHA  
BENGUS



STREET FIGHTER  
ALPHA 2  
EDAYAN



STREET FIGHTER ALPHA 3  
BENGUS



STREET FIGHTER III  
3RD STRIKE  
IKENO



SUPER STREET FIGHTER II  
TURBO REVIVAL  
EDAYAN





STREET FIGHTER  
ALPHA 3  
*BENGUS*



STREET FIGHTER III  
2ND IMPACT  
*BENGUS*



STREET FIGHTER III  
3RD STRIKE  
*IKENO*



STREET FIGHTER IV  
*POLYGON PICTURES*



STREET FIGHTER IV  
*IKENO*



SUPER STREET FIGHTER IV  
ARCADE EDITION (ONI)  
*IKENO*



**STREET FIGHTER IV**  
*POLYGON PICTURES*



**STREET FIGHTER III**  
**2ND IMPACT**  
*BENGUS*



**SUPER STREET FIGHTER II**  
**TURBO REVIVAL**  
*EDAYAN*



**STREET FIGHTER ALPHA 3**  
*BENGUS*





**SUPER PUZZLE  
FIGHTER II TURBO**  
*IKENO*



**SUPER PUZZLE  
FIGHTER II TURBO**  
*IKENO*



**SUPER PUZZLE  
FIGHTER II TURBO**  
*IKENO*



**SUPER STREET FIGHTER IV**  
*POLYGON PICTURES*



**SUPER STREET FIGHTER IV  
ARCADE EDITION (ONI)**  
*POLYGON PICTURES*



# STREET FIGHTER™ ORIGINS AKUMA

**Story:**  
Chris Sarracini

**Line Art:**  
Joe Ng

**Inks:**  
Robert Armstrong  
Kevin Raganit

**Colors:**  
Espen Grundetjern

**Lettering:**  
Marshall Dillon

**Flats Assist:**  
Ludwig Olimba

**Project Editor:**  
Matt Moylan

**Front Cover Art:**  
Joe Ng (pencils) and Gonzalo Ordonez Arias (colors)

**Back Cover Art:**  
Joe Ng (pencils) and Espen Grundetjern (colors)

## UDON STAFF

**Chief of Operations:** Erik Ko  
**Managing Editor:** Matt Moylan  
**Project Manager:** Jim Zubkavich  
**Director of Marketing:** Christopher Butcher  
**Marketing Manager:** Stacy King  
**Associate Editor:** Ash Paulsen  
**Japanese Liaisons:** Steven Cummings  
M. Kirie Hayashi

Capcom Licensing:  
Toshi Tokumaru & Yoshinori Ono of CAPCOM Co., Ltd.  
Taki Enomoto, Tsuyoshi Kanda, Brian Oliveira,  
Grant Luke & Francis Mao of CAPCOM USA, Inc.

© CAPCOM.  
Licensed for use by UDON Entertainment Corp.

Published by UDON Entertainment Corp.  
118 Tower Hill Road, CI, PO Box 20008  
Richmond Hill, Ontario, L4K 0K0 CANADA.

Any similarities to persons living or dead are purely coincidental. No portion of this publication may be used or reproduced by any means (digital or print) without written permission from UDON Entertainment except for review purposes.

**Printed by Suncolor Printing Co. Ltd.**  
**E-mail:** [suncolor@netvigator.com](mailto:suncolor@netvigator.com)

**First Printing:** August 2013  
**ISBN-13:** 978-1-926778-78-5  
**ISBN-10:** 1-926778-78-2

**Printed in Hong Kong**



# EMPIRE

## BLURPIXEL

